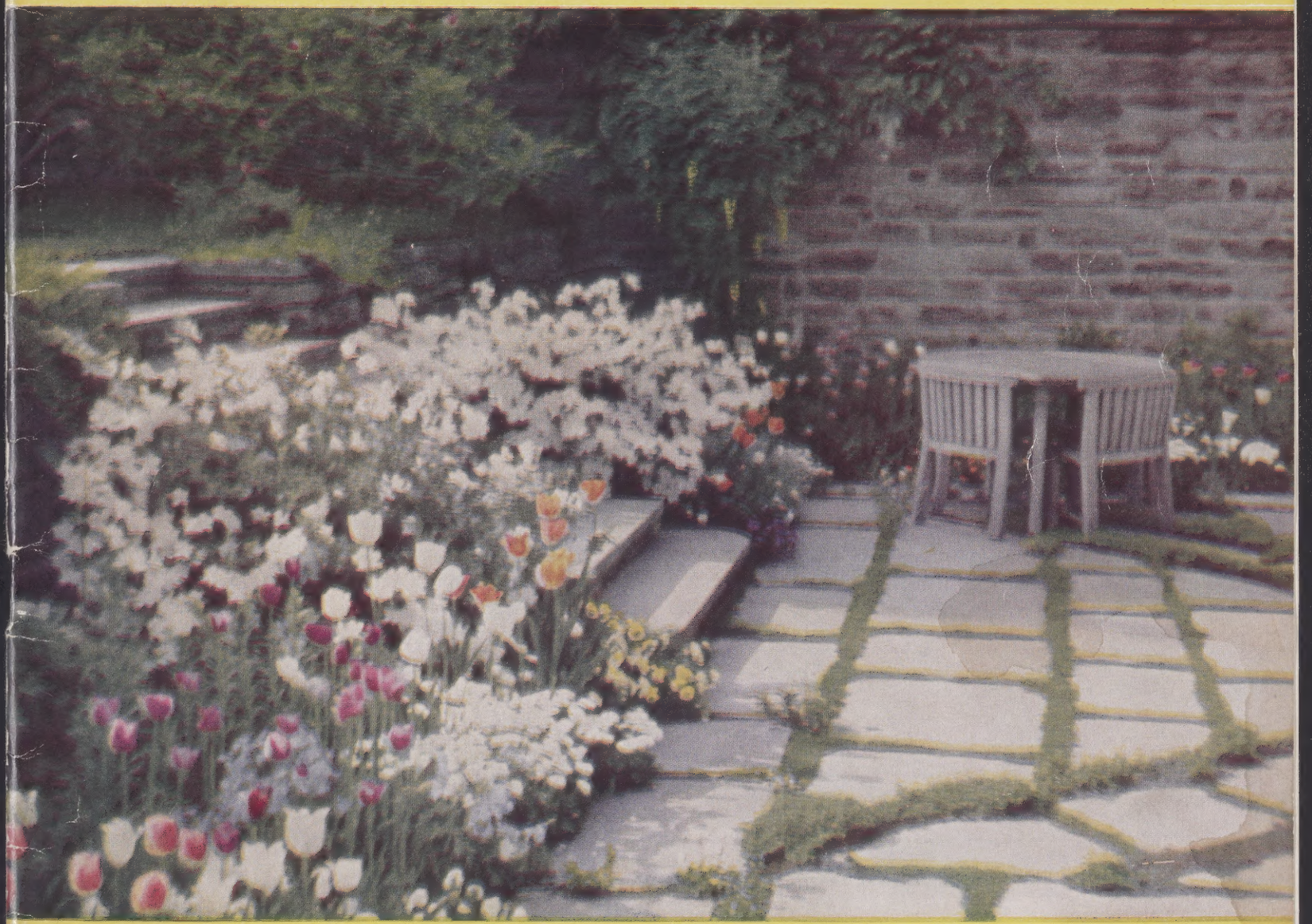
Philadelphia

FLOWER SHOW



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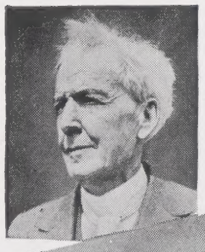
March 8-13, 1948

Burpee Announces The NEW Luther Burbank ZINNIAS



Favorite photo of Luther Burbank taken about the time of the one appearing on the Burbank Memorial Stamp.

Burpee Seeds
1948
PHILADELPHIA, PA. and CLINTON, IOWA
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LUTHER BURBANK ZINNIAS
2910 — We want you to grow these lovely new Zinnias. In honor of Luther Burbank we make this special offer. Pkt. 200 seeds (value 50¢) for only 25¢ 2 pkts. 45¢; 1000 seeds $1.00

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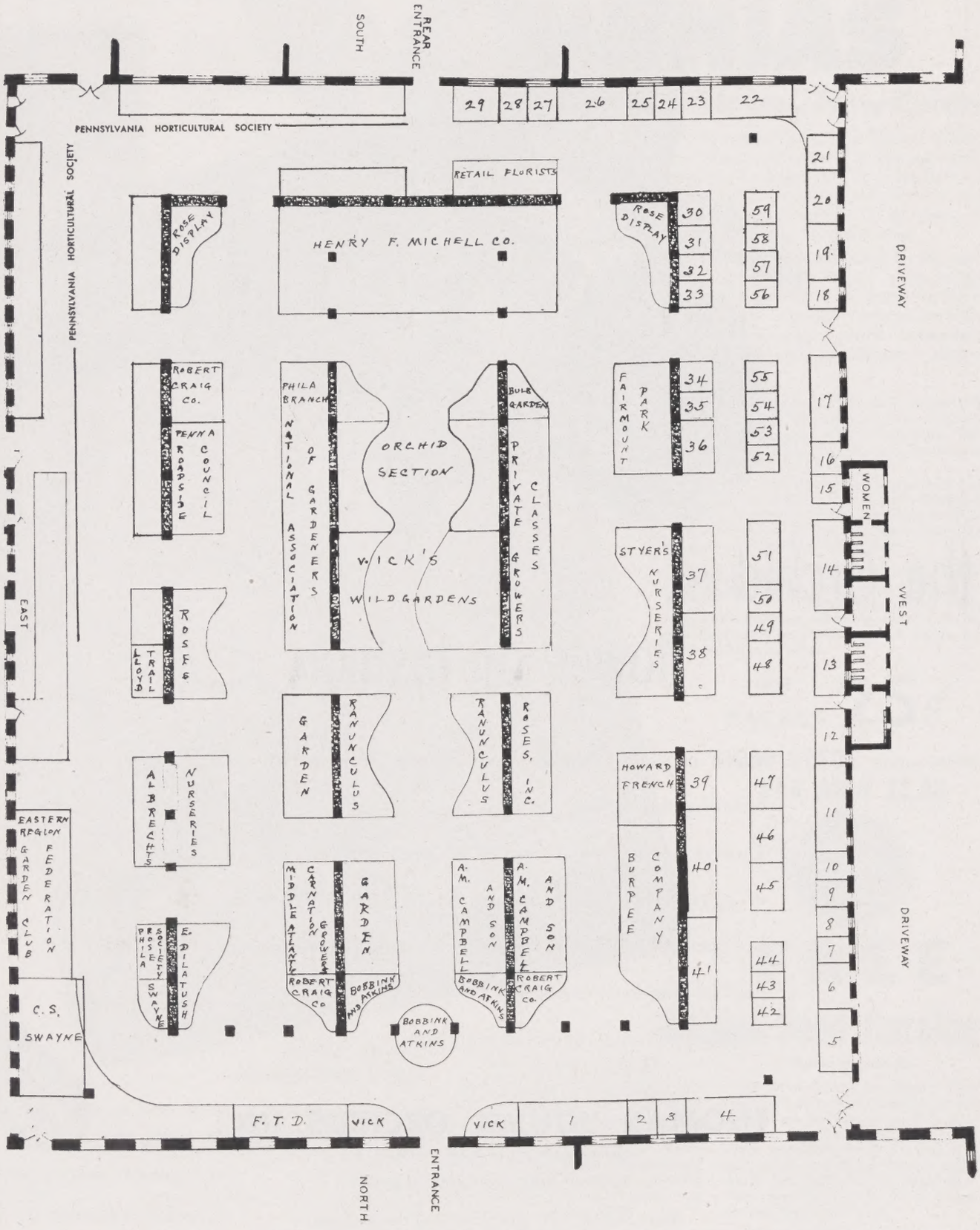
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Cooperating with

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Commercial Museum

Thirty-Fourth Street . . . below Spruce Street

March 8—13, 1948

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The Tea Room

The Emergency Aid is running the tea room, and it is no longer in its old location. It is now in the center of the building where it is more quiet and peaceful.

Your cooperation, in making your purchases from the advertisers in the program, will be appreciated. Their cooperation has played an important part in making this publication a success. Please mention The Flower Show Program on your orders.

Welcome to the

21st Annual

Philadelphia Flower Show

ANOTHER year has rolled around! And with it the Philadelphia Flower Show—a timely messenger heralding Spring! Having fought our way against the bluster of the winds in all their violence—the ice, snow, sleet and hail—we welcome this messenger.

As we step into the show we leave winter outside and far away in our minds. How phenomenal—with just a few steps, to behold Spring in all its ecstasy—the daffodils, tulips, pinks, heliotrope, crocus and myriad other brilliant flowers—also the trees and the shrubs that give so much beauty and happiness to this world.

What is the flower show? For many it is a forum for exchanging views; for others, a market place for buying and selling; for some, a refresher course and for still others, it is food for the soul.

Its rewards are not only for people blessed with gardens. Maybe you, through circumstances, do not have a garden but are looking forward and eagerly planning for that happy day. The flower show spurs your resolutions. You may have had a garden and lost it—the show brings back many memories and renews your desire to realize the great satisfaction of planting, nurturing and watching daily the wonderful transformation of a small, dry-looking seed to a thing of beauty. You reap the benefits—the greatest feeling of personal pride and accomplishment.

Many a gardener studying the beautifully planned and executed show gardens discovers "a little something" new to him or her and returns home inspired with ideas. Perhaps a shrub has been planted in the wrong position or a bird bath does not show to best advantage—whatever the trouble you will anticipate many delightful changes in the knowledge gained from the exhibits and suggestions of the skilled landscapers and amateur gardeners.

There is a wealth of truth and wisdom in the beauty and charm of flowers and the amassing of so many exquisite arrangements stirs in each one the innate human desire—to create beauty.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

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Philadelphia

FLOWER SHOW

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Daily Exhibits

Monday, March 8

Palms and Foliage Plants ..... *Private Growers*
Plants in Flower ..... *Private Growers*
Bulbs in Flower ..... *Private Growers*
Special Plantings ..... *Commercial Growers*
Special Plantings ..... *Open to all*
Gardens ..... *Open to all*
Orchids ..... *Private Growers*
Orchids ..... *Commercial Growers*
Cut Roses ..... *Commercial Growers*
Carnation Display ..... *Commercial Growers*
Sweet Pea Display ..... *Commercial Growers*
Plants in Flower ..... *Commercial Growers*

CLASS 501

Section of a green garden featuring one or more pieces of sculpture, and introducing color by means of potted plants as an element of the design. Space 10 feet long by 12 feet deep. Side construction, if any, not to exceed 2½ feet from top of planting box, and side planting not to obscure view of neighbor's garden. Planting box 9 inches deep provided.

CLASS 502

Section of a garden in harmony with one of the following styles: Oriental; Latin American; 18th Century (American); Victorian; 20th Century (Modern). Space 12 feet long by 15 feet deep. Side construction, if any, not to exceed 2½ feet from top of planting box, and side planting must not obscure view of neighbor's garden. Planting box 9 inches deep provided.

CLASS 503

Section of a hall featuring one or two flower arrangements, to be in harmony with one of the following styles: Oriental; Latin-American; 18th Century (American); Victorian; 20th Century (Modern). Background 8 feet wide by 8 feet high with right hand side partition extending 4 feet provided. Floor space 8 feet wide by 6 feet deep.

CLASS 504

Table set for "high tea" to feature one or more arrangements of fresh plant material and to be in harmony with one of the following styles: Oriental; Latin-American; 18th Century (American); Victorian; 20th Century (Modern). No flatware or food, other than fruit, allowed. No chairs. Table 5 feet, 10 inches long by 3 feet, 8 inches wide, will be provided.

CLASS 505

Arrangements of plant material to suggest a natural phenomenon, i. e., rain, snow, ice, rainbow, storm, etc. (to be captioned by exhibitor). Space 30 inches long by 18 inches deep by 34 inches high.

CLASS 506

Arrangement of forced branches in the oriental manner. Space 20 inches long by 18 inches deep by 24 inches high.

CLASS 507

Miniature setting. Section of a room in a definite period using one flower arrangement. Any furniture, wallpaper, etc., permissible. Scale to be foremost consideration. Space 10 inches long by 6 inches deep by 12 inches high.

Tuesday, March 9

Miscellaneous Cut Flowers ..... *Private Growers*
Cut Flowers ..... *Commercial Growers*
Carnations, Cut ..... *Commercial Growers*

CLASS 508

Arrangement of plant material to be in harmony with one of the following styles: Oriental; Latin-American; 18th Century (American); Victorian; 20th Century (Modern). Space 30 inches long by 18 inches deep by 34 inches high.

CLASS 509

Arrangement of fresh plant material in identical containers. No accessories. Space 20 inches long by 18 inches deep by 24 inches high. (Container may be borrowed or purchased, price $4.25, from The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society after December 1st.)

CLASS 510

Flower arrangement for a coffee table. Space 10 inches long by 6 inches deep by 12 inches high.

Wednesday, March 10

Baskets of Cut Flowers ..... *Private Growers*
Carnations, Cut ..... *Private Growers*
Roses, Cut ..... *Private Growers*
Snapdragons ..... *Commercial Growers*

CLASS 511

Table set for not less than four using glass or crystal only featuring one or more arrangements of fresh plant material. No flatware or food, other than fruit, allowed. No chairs. Table 5 feet, 10 inches long by 3 feet 8 inches wide, will be provided.

CLASS 512

Interpretive composition expressing a mood: i. e., joy, tranquillity, etc., featuring flower arrangement used with one or more accessories or any object suitable to the creation of an interesting whole. (To be captioned by exhibitor). Space 30 inches long by 18 inches deep by 34 inches high.

CLASS 513

Color Magic. Arrangement expressive of one of the following:

Blue as the Sky	Pure as Gold
As Gray as the Dawn	In the Pink of Condition
In the Red	Born to the Purple
	White as the Snow

Some flowers must be used. Space 20 inches long by 18 inches deep by 24 inches high.

CLASS 514

Arrangement in a container not ordinarily used for flowers. Space 10 inches long by 6 inches deep by 12 inches high.

Thursday, March 11

Roses, Cut ..... *Commercial Growers*
Sweet Peas ..... *Private Growers*
Sweet Peas ..... *Commercial Growers*

CLASS 515

Study in combining one or two flower arrangements with one, two or three framed black and white prints (etchings, lithographs or block prints) or black and white drawings in an interior setting. Colored frames and/or mats permissible. The exhibitor should particularly consider the combination as a problem for use in a home where the pictures may be enjoyed with intimacy. The work of but one artist may be used in each setting and the pictures must have been produced within the last five years. Background 8 feet wide by 8 feet high with right hand side partition extending 4 feet to suggest corner. Floor space 8 feet wide by 6 feet deep.

CLASS 516

Arrangement of flowers and/or any other plant material in any container. No restrictions other than relation to space. Space 30 inches long by 18 inches deep by 34 inches high.

CLASS 517

Arrangement of flowers in your favorite container. No accessories. Space 20 inches long by 18 inches deep by 24 inches high.

CLASS 518

Arrangement of flowers with a blotter as a background. Space 10 inches long by 6 inches deep by 12 inches high.

Friday, March 12

CLASS 519

Table set for not less than four, featuring an epergne using flowers and/or fruit. No flatware or food, other than fruit, allowed. No chairs. Table 5 feet, 10 inches long by 3 feet 8 inches wide will be provided.

CLASS 520

Arrangement of durable structural material such as succulents, evergreens, etc., with flowers and/or fruit as accent. No dried material permitted. Space 30 inches long by 18 inches deep by 34 inches high.

CLASS 521

Arrangement of carnations with wallpaper background. Space 20 inches long by 18 inches deep by 24 inches high.

CLASS 522

Arrangement of foliage. (No dried material.) Space 10 inches long by 6 inches deep by 12 inches high.

NEW GROWTH, NEW BEAUTY!

NEW SUCCESS WITH ALL GROWING THINGS

For years, thousands of lawns and gardens have been improved with Armour quality plant foods. Now, in new Armour Velvetgreen, you get all the benefit of Armour's 50 years of experience in making the finest plant foods.

Velvetgreen is actually different from any other plant food! It's well balanced, has a high plant food content. Lawns, gardens, flowers, shrubs, trees all respond amazingly to Velvetgreen.

Get Velvetgreen today from your seed store, garden supply or hardware dealer. Feed your lawn and flowers before Spring growth, then periodically throughout the Summer and early Fall. See if Velvetgreen doesn't bring the wonderful success with growing things you never believed possible!

Here and There

By DR. JANE LESLIE KIFT

SOMEONE once said she felt the two most beautiful events in Philadelphia were the Ascention Day service at Saint James Church and The Philadelphia Flower Show. Saint James Church is no more but the Philadelphia Flower Show is still being staged and each year grows "better and better in every way."

Flowers mean so much to us, we all love them—want them and most of us grow them. We may belong to the groups who are contented just to enjoy them but who care not one hoot for their whys and wherefores or we may belong to the group who want to know from whence they hail—their idiosyncrasies as well as their likes and dislikes. You will find an answer to all such questions at the Philadelphia Flower Show, for gardeners are a friendly folk and always have time to answer questions. So don't hesitate to stop and chat with the men and women in charge of the various exhibits. They are all anxious to spread the gospel of better gardens. If you have some problem you want solved and don't know to whom to apply for advice, inquire at the booth of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The person on duty will be glad to help you.

Should you see a Christmas rose in one of the woodland gardens or perhaps in one of the old-fashioned gardens will it surprise you to learn that this low-growing little plant with its fragile flowers, botanically known as Helleborus niger is a close relative to the brilliant ranunculus which is so spectacular in this year's show. Both are members of the buttercup family.

Should you happen to own an apparently healthy holly tree that refuses to bear berries, don't try feeding it. It will not help the plant to get berries but rather talk over the matter with a representative of a nursery who has some hollies entered in the show. He will tell you that the sexes are distinct upon the plants, that in order to have berries there must be a plant of each sex to insure pollination. Nurseries now supply grafted plants which have both sexes. Should you wonder why the berries from your Christmas wreath haven't pushed above the soil, don't worry, you cannot expect signs of germination for at least 18 months.

When you stop to admire the tall spears of the delphiniums which are surely among the patricians of the border, remember that Old John Parkinson over 300 years ago wrote, "Wee call them in England Larkes heeles, larkes toes or claws." Larkspur is one of the oldest old-fashioned flowers, more popular today than ever. Also keep in mind that seed over a year old will not grow.

It may seem a far cry from the bottle of extract of vanilla on your pantry shelf to an exotic orchid plant, but the extract of vanilla you use for flavoring purposes is a product of the Mexican V, fragrans an orchid widely cultivated in the tropics for the vanilla bean which is the source of commercial vanilla.

Everyone grows begonias but only a few realize that there is a hardy variety Evansiana. This plant is really unique among begonias in that it is reasonably hardy in the open ground.

Did you ever hear of the Sticky tree? Well there is such a tree in New Zealand, which is said to catch flies and birds. There is also a Sneezewood tree, a native of South Africa so called because you cannot see it without sneezing. The Quillaja sopanaria, a South American evergreen that is sometimes seen in southern California. It hasn't much to recommend it but it is interesting because of its sopanacious lathery bark. The butter tree of Senegal produces a nut containing butter and the sugar tree or Douglas-Fir of British Columbia produces a rare kind of sugar which is found among the leaves in small lumps and very pleasant to taste. Then there is the Demajagne tree. When an Ecuador Indian wants a blanket he hunts up this tree and takes from it a six-foot section of its peculiar bark which provides him with a blanket of soft texture which we are told lasts several years.

Vines are not only graceful but they are exceedingly interesting. Nature has endowed them with unique parts to enable them to twine, for example the Hop is furnished with microscopic prickles, shaped liked an anvil which helps to move the plant. The old-fashioned Hoya carnosa has reversed hairs upon its leaves. Parthenocissus, a Japanese ivy produces discs at the top of each tendril. These discs secrete a cement from cells which cause them to cling so firmly that a tendril will break before the pad at its base is pulled away. The Virginia Creeper also has discs which are extremely strong. The English and trailing rubber (ficus prunila) produce roots along their stems with which they can attach themselves to walls or trees.

All gardeners know that the butterfly bush attracts butterflies but perhaps you may not know that the old-fashioned trumpet vine Bignonia radicans is one vine that will attract humming birds. The humming bird will also visit any garden where the wild bergamot grows.

Do you know that the sage bush that grows in many parts of the West is an Artemesia? The Artemesia, mugwort, Southern wood, Mountain Fringe, (Old-Man, Old-Woman), and Lads Love comprise a group of plants that are grown not so much for their flowers as their ornamental foliage.

Many gardeners grow the "Wee, modest, crimson-tippe'd flower" about which Burns and Wordsworth wrote, the English daisy, but few realize that although

it blooms quickly in the spring, the finest flowers are produced in the fall, when it is cooler.

The graceful foliage and the soft shell-pink flowers of the Bleedingheart (Dicentra) charms us all but have you ever taken one of the flowers apart? If you have, you have no doubt discovered several interesting things. Of course you must look carefully and use a bit of imagination and you will find two rabbits—a harp—grandpa's glasses and a bottle. Quite a find in so small a blossom.

Plants, like people have decided idiosyncrasies and Liatris, commonly known as Gay Feather, is no exception to the rule. Here we have a plant where the succession of bloom is from the top downward rather than from the lowest bloom up to the highest as in all other spike flowers.

Poppies, especially the Oriental varieties, are dramatic when in full bloom. Do you know that the huge blossoms will last longer if cut either in the early morning or at evening if you remember to remove the outer green calyx? Other varieties of poppies should also be cut early in the morning when the buds are tight, allowing them to open up in the water.

If you decide you want a Japanese maple, consider the green-leaved sorts, they have so much to offer and are fully as desirable as the red and purple varieties, inasmuch as they change color and fit into the landscape rather than standing apart. The red varieties frequently prove a discordant note.

Linnaeus, the Swedish Botanist in the "Tour of Laplant," tells us why he named the hardy shrub we all admire Andromeda. He found this plant always fixed in some turfy hillock in the midst of swamps as Andromeda herself was chained to a rock in the sea which bathed her feet as the fresh water does the roots of this plant. Andromeda was the daughter of Cepheus and Cassiope.

The Camellia, which is a hardy shrub in the south must be grown under glass in the north. This plant, with its beautiful, waxy flowers, was first introduced by David Landreth of Philadelphia in 1784. One more Philadelphia first. In June, when the first public flower show was staged by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, in Masonic Hall, Chestnut Street, in Philadelphia, the records state: "there could be no doubt that the camellia stood closest to the hearts of the flower lovers of that day and that the second flower in importance was the Rose; while Dahlias were produced in almost as great numbers as they are today."

Do you know the Osmanthus (Holly-Olive) is not a holly although its leaves are similar to those of the English holly? Hollies are alternate-leaved whereas this plant has opposite leaves which are smaller and thicker. The Osmanthus transplants more easily than holly. If you don't know the plant you can find it in the show.

Have you ever noticed the sticky area beneath the flowers of the Rhododendrons? This stickiness has like other things in nature, a definite purpose. It prevents the entrance of tiny insects and caters only to those which carry pollen from flower to flower. You have an opportunity to see beautiful rhododendrons at this show. Enjoy them.

Lilacs are believed to have reached Europe in 1597 by way of Constantinople and Vienna.

When reveling in the beauty which you see on all sides, do not overlook some of the unusual, less impressive plant material. The Philadelphia Flower Show presents some very rare botanical specimens you may never have an opportunity to see outside of a show.

Have a Good Time and Don't Get Too Tired.

Julian Meade, leaving a flower show, encountered a serene lady in a floppy hat. He expected her to burst into poetry any minute. She did—in the following lines:

Early to bed
Early to rise;
Work like Hell
And Fertilize.

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The Wissahickon—Secluded Valley

By JOSEPH CARSON
President, Commissioners of Fairmount Park

LAST YEAR at the ever notable display sponsored by The Philadelphia Flower Show at the Commercial Museum, there was awarded a handsome silver medal on the reverse of which was engraved these words:

AWARDED

FAIRMOUNT PARK COMMISSION

FOR

OUTSTANDING EXHIBIT

MARCH 17, 1947

The exhibit which inspired this thoughtful action consisted of a large backdrop painted by the well-known artist and etcher Herbert Pullinger, picturing the Walnut Lane Bridge across the Wissahickon Valley with two riders mounted on galloping chestnut steeds approaching the foreground which, in three dimensions showed the very surface of the road itself flanked by growing trees, rhododendrons, dogwood in bloom, ferns and rocks. On one side of the road was a crude log bench characteristic of the place and near it one of the old signs symbolic of the spirit of the valley even today—"Speed Limit 7 Miles an Hour." The effect was pleasing and it served as a memento that the spring beauty depicted there lay in all its reality but a few miles from this replica of it.

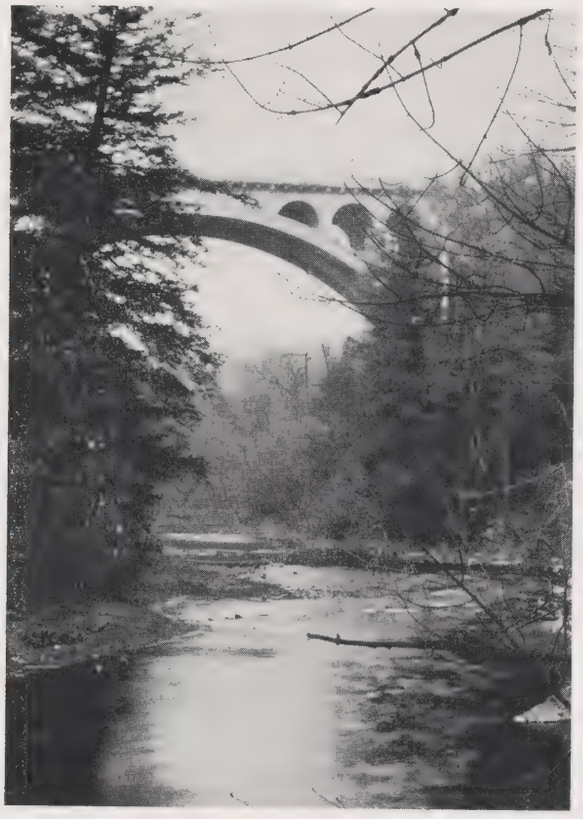
The Park Commissioners were proud of this reminder and proud indeed that it was worthy of the medal, but they remain prouder still of the reality—the Wissahickon Valley stretching from Robeson's Mill at the mouth of the Creek near Ridge Avenue to Northwestern Avenue a distance of seven miles. What City great or small has such natural beauty hidden away in its heart? Certainly no Philadelphian would admit that it has a peer. To see it once is to love it always.

But over the years it was not always as beautiful as it is today. Few people realize that its once primordial loveliness was spoiled by mills along the stream manufacturing flour and paper in conflict with its beauty. Had not this encroachment by business been stopped, the Creek would have become just another stream soiled and sullied by man's hand. Following the lesson taught here by those Park Commissioners of 1868 and by the city fathers in providing the means, in more recent years, Tacony Creek and Pennypack Creek in the northeast have similarly been rescued. And this was done none too soon for other stream valleys have gone forever. Bricks and mortar, tin cans, waste and refuse have worked their havoc for all time.

These old Commissioners of eighty years ago, bless their loving hearts, secured the lands along the Wissahickon Creek, tore down the mills and gave nature the chance to heal the wounds and cover the scars that were made. Such walls as remain are picturesque today serving as a reminder of what might have been had it not been stopped and stopped forever.

The valley was inaccessible in the early days, for except for a line of rough paths connecting the mills, there was no drive as we know it today paralleling the stream. The mills were reached by rough and steep roads with horse-drawn vehicles, running up on one side to the Ridge Road and on the other to the Germantown Pike. Today many of these roads, happily, are still rough and serve again as reminders that even now the valley is not too accessible. That is as it should be. While the mills are gone their memory is preserved in the names of these lanes—Wise's Mill, Spruce Mill, Thorp's Mill, Thomas's Mill and Bell's Mill.

Much has been written about this region over the years. In guidebook form no one tells its story better than Francis Burke Brandt in "The Wissahickon Valley Within The City of Philadelphia" published by the Corn Exchange National Bank in 1927. With its well-arranged text and its one hundred and twenty-five pictures, no explorer of the valley afoot or on horseback can afford to be without it. With great propriety it is dedicated to "The Friends of the Wissa-



hickon" that adoring parent of the valley. One should own, too, that tiny book of eighty-one pages that in its nature becomes a companion volume "The Wissahickon" compiled by T. A. Daly and published by The Garden Club of Philadelphia in 1922. It is feelingly illustrated with drawings by Herbert Pullinger. In it will be found a list of articles written on the history of the region. But no one knows the great trees and all they mean better than Dr. Cornelius Weygandt who in 1930 published his delightful volume of essays "The Wissahickon Hills." No one loves the valley more nor writes of it more charmingly.

But if the grist and paper mills, one of which at least was established as early as 1738, tended to despoil the God-made beauty of the creek a suggestion of a later date would have utterly destroyed it. This suggestion was to erect a dam and supply Philadelphia with the water thus impounded. Happily the city grew too fast to make such a source of supply adequate and nothing came of it. But all these near tragedies have resulted in preserving the valley in a state more closely approaching the primeval than it was at the time of the Revolution. Such a statement may sound strange, but it is none the less true.

While some exotic plants are to be found in the valley and along its slopes, grown from seeds carried down from the formal gardens on the heights above by itinerant birds or by the winds, the Park Commission's policy has been to plant nothing but native stock. There is much for a lover of plant life to see and to note. Some years ago there was found in Horticultural Hall in Fairmount Park a carefully mounted and labelled herbarium of the Wissahickon mosses. Some of them the writer was informed are not to be found growing in the valley today. This collection is now at "The Academy of Natural Sciences" on the Parkway.

Then, too, other lovers of nature pass this way for the geologist and the bird man find their special interests in this secluded valley. The judgment of nearly forty years ago that no motor car should pass along the drive has never been reversed and nobody today would care to suggest that the road be hard-surfaced as a speedway. This February day, as these words are written, after twelve hours of falling snow, there are but two ways of transportation there by ski or snow-shoe or by a horse-drawn sleigh. If ever there was a place where the benefits of civilization, progress, if you care to call it that, is to be discouraged, this magic valley is that place. It lacks only the forefathers of Tedyuscung and the Great Spirit to take it back to the dawn of history.

Philadelphians—it is yours—this secluded valley to love and to cherish.

Violet, sweet violet!
Thine eyes are full of tears
Are they wet
Even yet
With the thought of other years?

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The Orchid—Flower of Fashion

THE orchid display at the Philadelphia Flower Show is notable for many reasons. Apart from the beauty and wide diversity of the blooms—two points that always strike the casual visitor—the feature that is of greatest interest is that the flowers are American—grown *in America,* bred (if one may borrow the term) *in America,* and are as far removed from the battered jungle species as the Koh-I-Noor diamond is unlike the original drab rock that hid its brilliance. Orchids of the type to be seen at this show are products of the orchidologist's skill and design. They are grown in test tubes. They take a minimum of seven year's growing before the first shy flowers show themselves to a waiting world. They spend their lives under glass, under carefully controlled conditions of moisture and temperature. Every plant is pruned of old growth and re-potted every year. Their roots live on air—they are epiphytes, not parasites—and, in their dainty way, they have as little contact as possible with the lowly earth.

Orchids have reached a pinnacle of popularity during the last few seasons. They have become almost *de rigueur* for every dress-up occasion. The demand for them has grown by leaps and bounds and the big growers have risen manfully to the occasion.

A network of distribution has been set up that makes fine orchids available in every part of the country. Blooms arrive at local florists by train, truck and plane within a few hours of cutting. Tonight's corsage, worn in Dallas, may have been cut yesterday in New Jersey or Pennsylvania. It is fresh, vivid, and it will, with reasonable care, last for ten days and as many wearings.

Time was when an orchid was the mark of the sophisticate—the woman of the world to whom chaperones were a thing of the past. But fashions—and conventions—change, and now orchids are the prerogative of every age and stage of maturity.

Even the dainty debutante finds that her ensemble gains in charm when highlighted by a lovely hybrid orchid. And don't think that her escort doesn't know his duty, these days. It is the accepted thing, now, for the beau to present himself, orchid in hand, if he has not already had it delivered that afternoon.

For evening wear, orchids are the answer to the ever-present problem of "finding something to match." The astounding variety of colors, shapes and sizes grown in America make it certain that the wearer will find not only "something to match" but the exact shade she was looking for—the one flower that was needed to make the evening a success.

The strapless mode poses a problem that has been successfully met by pinning a single orchid in the hair—or wearing an orchid at the wrist. The sweetheart neckline problem has been solved, too, with a small orchid pinned with a clip at each corner.

Wear orchids with restraint—one lovely bloom is more effective than too many. Eschew a surplus of ribbon—let the orchid speak for itself. And, finally, wear them right side up, with the stalk running *down.* The woman with an upside down orchid corsage is too evidently wearing her first. With orchids so much the fashion, now-a-days, it is best to give the impression that one's first orchid corsage was worn in the dim and distant past.

The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

EASTERN REGION

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Mrs. William A. Armstrong, Federation Junior Education Chairman

WHAT IS THE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF PENNSYLVANIA?

The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania established in Philadelphia in 1929, has a membership of 115 garden clubs in all sections of the State. A Western Region Office is maintained in Pittsburgh and the Eastern Region Office in Philadelphia.

OBJECT—to coordinate the interests of the Garden Clubs of the State, and to bring them into closer relations of mutual helpfulness by association, conference, and correspondence, and to co-operate with other educational agencies furthering the interests of horticulture and conservation.

Your Children and The Garden Club Federation

THE BACKGROUND of the program developing between the Garden Club Federation and the Philadelphia Public Schools is found in various tides of change sweeping over American Cities. Now that planners foresee great cities developing in the form of concentric rings, rather than concentrated centers, with spacious gardens and parkways, well planted highways and subsistance acreage for each householder, it becomes most apparent that man will never be able to dispense with the personal knowledge of how to till the soil. It is now a most important responsibility of the leaders in gardening, conservation, nature study and all outdoor education, to begin to bend the minds of the young in the direction of these future needs.

The war was a sharp reminder to city people of their absolute dependence upon nature for their existence, not to mention good health. The city-sickness of people, waves of juvenile delinquency, the economic dilemma involved in clearing slums and establishing a respect for community property all represent factors of great importance in accomplishing this great and necessary task before us.

The Federation program has been an enlightened one. In general it has supported the activities of the public schools with advice, service, and money. It has fought for greater Horticulture facilities for girls and has helped develop the service which provides work-experience for school children who otherwise would not encounter work until after graduation. By establishing a patronage relationship to the neglected schools in the Philadelphia System, by providing a means of getting to those who need it most the garden surplus from private gardens, the Federation has in many practical ways entered the private lives of hundreds and hundreds of children.

As important as any of these has been the sponsoring by the Garden Clubs of scholarships to the Pennsylvania State Conservation Workshop, to the Mt. Desert Island Nature Study Camp, and to the Sussex County Life Camp, to provide teachers experiences in the summer in the general and particular fields of Nature Study, Conservation, natural resources, camping, and outdoor education which even now are being fed back profitably into the classrooms of almost a quarter million students in the great Philadelphia Public School System.

The program of the Philadelphia Public Schools under Dr. Alexander J. Stoddard, Superintendent, with which the Federation program has been merged is one that has been gaining momentum for the past four or five years. Measures are being developed to provide a sound Nature Study program for all the elementary school classrooms throughout Philadelphia. Along with this program, steps are being taken to improve neighborhoods by means of student projects and to improve school grounds as part of a general program in Nature Study and Horticulture within each individual school. In the summer the public schools provide a Junior Garden Day Camp in which children from the elementary schools, ordinarily deprived of this experience, can work their own gardens and associate themselves with projects involving animals and garden tools, in a congenial atmosphere with educational supervision. From the older boys and girls of the senior high school a Farm Army is recruited which is sent to most of the areas in the Eastern United States to work and absorb the cultures of the various areas and bring this back as a dividend with which to enrich the general life of the Philadelphia community. Besides these general programs, a regular Course in Horticulture and Agriculture leading to jobs and to college is provided at the high school level for Academic and Industrial students. These students in the summer are provided with such practical work experiences or are placed in residence in a Farm Work Camp which is cooperatively run by the Agriculture Program and a commercial farmer.

The Program also is developing for the first time a practical coordination of greenhouses in each of the high schools so equipped, which provides students with minor credits in Horticulture and provides the School System as a whole with sources of supply for Nature Study.

Finally, as by-products of all these other activities within the Public School nature and outdoor education program there is developing an interest in new forms of camping, mountain trailing, recreation, and youth hosteling which, it is expected, will extend themselves finally into a well-considered youth movement for the area.

Under the leadership of the Federated Garden Clubs and the Agriculture Program this regional activity has developed. So far results cannot be accurately evaluated but there are grounds for optimism. The Federation, through its committees, is learning the best ways to operate with a large Public School System and the Public Schools have had revealed to them the rich possibilities to be derived by accepting the talents and abilities for leadership to be found amongst the personnel of the Federation. The results of the cooperation is an enriched community life.

The program extends into the unforeseeable future. As the Philadelphia five-county area grows and changes, as its populations shift and stabilize, as new modern forms of highways, transportation, and patterns of living crystallize around new findings of science and economics, we can expect, no matter how much other phases of the community picture may change, that the work of this cooperative effort will only increase.

THE
PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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Philadelphia 3, Pa.

You are cordially invited to join
The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and
to enjoy the following privileges:

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- SERVICES OF GARDENING CONSULTANTS – in office or by telephone.
- LECTURES
- PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW—one admission.
- EXHIBITIONS PRESENTED BY THE SOCIETY.
- GARDEN VISITS.
- HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY – circulating. Mailing privilege to out-of-town members.
- YEAR BOOK.
- USE OF ROOMS.
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Membership implies a forward-looking interest in the influence of horticulture on the individual, in the home and the community, making life happier and richer.

ANNUAL DUES, $3.50
LIFE MEMBERSHIP, $50.00

C. Frederick C. Stout
President

John C. Wister
Secretary

Mrs. John B. Carson
Chairman, Membership Committee

Look for the Society's booth at the Flower Show and when in town, stop in at the Society's attractive rooms and visit the Library.

Section of room featuring flower arrangement and piece of sculpture

Section of room featuring flower arrangement and sculpture

Buffet Party Table

A Garden at the City's Door

By JOHN C. WISTER

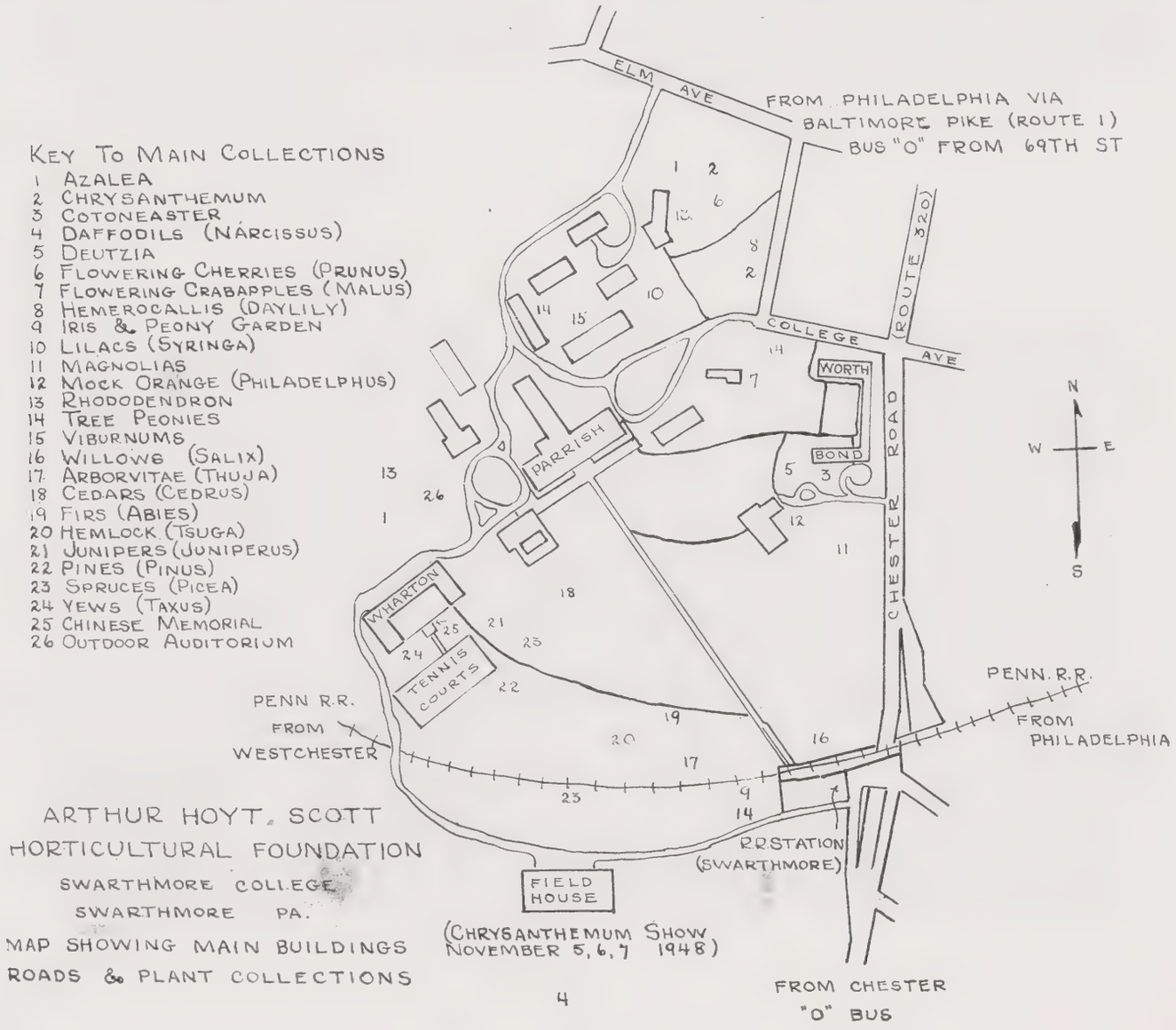
SINCE the time when William Penn's new province was named Penn's Woods the people of our state have been interested in gardens. Near Philadelphia were the first botanical gardens of this country and today in its suburbs are to be found some of the most beautiful private estates and public gardens in America.

The city of Philadelphia preserves as a park the home of John Bartram who started his famous garden in 1731. Bartram explored the wilderness of Western Pennsylvania and of our southern states and brought many new plants into cultivation.

Inspired by Bartram, more than half a dozen tree and shrub collections which became famous were planted during the hundred years between 1750 and 1850. One of these, the arboretum of the Pierce brothers, has been preserved by Mr. Pierre duPont as part of his famous Longwood Gardens, and another, the arboretum of the Painter brothers in Lima, near Media, is now being restored as part of the new John J. Tyler Arboretum.

During this period, in 1827, there was organized the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the first society of its kind to be organized in America. Its first show was held in 1829 and since then it has held several hundred exhibitions. Since the inception of the Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc., it has cooperated in all its shows.

Longwood Gardens and Horticultural Hall in Fairmount Park are best known for their displays of greenhouse-grown exotic plants. In contrast to these, a new garden of hardy plants has been planted at the City's door for the express purpose of displaying for the pleasure of and the instruction of city and suburban gardeners, the many different plants which can be grown outdoors in Pennsylvania.



ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT
HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE PA.

MAP SHOWING MAIN BUILDINGS
ROADS & PLANT COLLECTIONS

(CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW NOVEMBER 5, 6, 7 1948)

4

This garden, containing trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants is maintained on the grounds of Swarthmore College by the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation. It is open free to the public every day in the year and is easily reached by train from the Suburban station or by the Chester bus from 69th Street or by automobile. It is near the junction of the Baltimore Pike, Route 1, and Sproul Road, Route 320.

The Scott Foundation was started in 1930 and has planted on the College Campus about 5,000 different species and varieties of plants. Some are in labeled study collections, others are in mixed plantings for the beautification of the campus, suggesting attractive combinations for home gardens. Some are in the lovely natural setting of a wooded rocky hillside going down to the waters of winding Crum Creek.

Visitors to the Philadelphia Flower Show have seen specimens of many of these hardy plants forced into bloom in early March, planted in naturalistic surroundings. They have seen how charmingly such plants can be arranged in even the smallest gardens.

Outdoors these plants do not all bloom in the same week. Visitors may come to Swarthmore and see them in bloom at different times. In late March and early April the early bulbs like Snowdrops, Crocus and Scilla are to be seen. Then come the Daffodils, 450 varieties of them, Forsythia, 15 species and varieties, Magnolias, 30 kinds and Flowering Cherries, 40 kinds. In May, the collection of Tree Peonies, 200 varieties, dazzling in their beauty of color and form, attract many visitors. They are highly photogenic, especially for color film. Many authorities consider this collection to be the finest in the United States, as is also the collection of the new May-blooming hybrid herbaceous Peonies, 100 varieties. During May the Flowering Apples, 30 kinds, Dogwoods, Hawthorns, 20 kinds, Lilacs (another especially outstanding collection) 200 kinds, Azaleas, 200 kinds, and Iris, 300 varieties, keep up a continuous succession of bloom. In June the well-known Chinese Herbaceous Peonies, 400 varieties, Rhododendrons, 100 species and varieties, and yellow Day Lilies, 100 varieties, are at their height. Some of the new Day Lily varieties continue to bloom through July and August.

Many plants such as Daffodils, Azaleas and Rhododendrons have been planted by the thousands in the woods where the native wildflowers are staging a

A Tree Peony in the Collection of the Arthur Hoyt Horticultural Foundation of Swarthmore College

comeback with protection from fire and theft. Naturally, none of the plants in the woods, whether native or planted, are to be picked, any more than those on the rest of the campus.

In September the Chrysanthemums, 100 varieties, begin, reaching their height in late October and often continuing until severe weather at Thanksgiving. The Annual Chrysanthemum Show will be held November 5, 6, and 7 in the Field house, and promises to be finer than ever. The autumn is made brilliant also by the bright color of the berries of many shrubs and by the yellow and scarlet foliage of the trees. There is no season in the year when some interesting plants cannot be seen in flower or fruit.

All persons who have enjoyed the Philadelphia Flower Show are invited to come to Swarthmore often to see these plants and learn how they may be used in their own gardens.

The collection was planned and planted by the Foundation, which was formed through the generosity of the family and friends of the late Arthur Hoyt Scott who himself was a great gardener and who had planned before his death to establish some kind of garden where people in the vicinity might see the best varieties of the hardy plants which they might themselves grow. It is maintained partly by the Foundation and partly by the College.

Some glimpse of the beauty of these plants may be had by merely driving through the college grounds, but for anyone who really cares for the beauty of gardening it is better to come on foot and go slowly through the different collections. Information concerning the plants may be had by applying to the office of the Foundation at 114 Martin Building.

Oh, Adam was a gardener and God,
Who made him, sees
That half a proper gardener's work
Is done upon his knees;
So when your work is finished, you
Can wash your hands and pray,
For the glory of the garden, that it
May not pass away.

—RUDYARD KIPLING

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"We cover every need for your Garden"

MICHELL'S SEED HOUSE • 518 Market St., Phila. 5, Pa.

Dogwood

PENNSYLVANIANS are proud of the beauty of their State, and especially of the profusion of Dogwood scattered thruout its length and breadth.

More and more each year folks are learning of its superb beauty, and travel for many miles to behold this work of nature.

In the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania, one of the most glorious displays of Dogwood is to be seen at Valley Forge. It is breath-taking with its beautiful soft pink and white abundance of blossoms. A day out of your year is well spent drinking in such beauty, and will be a lasting and pleasant picture in your book of memories. Be sure to visit Valley Forge this spring during the Dogwood season. Trains and buses make it easily accessible.

Most folks do not realize that it is worth their while to make a second trip to the same spot in the fall of the year. The Dogwood trees at this time are as lovely, in a different way, as they are in the spring. Now you will find the trees bare of their leaves, but densely covered with red berries and, grouped as they are, on the hillside, will give you a picture that will remain in your mind, making you anxious to get back to see it again, taking others with you who have not been fortunate enough to have seen it before.

The State is taking good care of our Dogwood, with its vigilance and protective laws. It may interest you to know that the Pennsylvania Turnpike, which is being extended to the eastern boundaries, is to be the Blue Star Memorial Highway. It has planned to landscape the highway, giving continuous maintenance. The flowering Dogwood has been chosen as appropriate and symbolic. It is native to our State. Beside being sturdy, at regular seasons it bursts into glorious blossoms for all passing by to enjoy. Then in the fall, its fiery red berries add spots of color to the autumn scenery.

This project does not have to be left to the State alone. You may participate if you wish. Perhaps you would like a tree planted in memory of a dear one, or you may just wish to feel that you have helped to beautify your State, bringing joy to thousands as well as to yourself.

The eastern end of the Turnpike is in the making. We are going to make it one of the most beautiful roads in the State. Let us get started on the roadside landscaping, and in a few short years have a planting that will be the talk of the country.

For specific information of any kind, communicate with Pennsylvania Roadside Council, D. D. 1, Media, Pa.

The Pennsylvania Blue Star Memorial Highway is a glorious opportunity to pay a living tribute to the men and women who served in The Last World War; to prove your faith in the America they fought to preserve; to demonstrate your pride in Pennsylvania.

The Legend of the Dogwood

At the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood attained the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree, that it was chosen for the timber of the cross. To be thus used for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus naked upon it, sensed this, and in His gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering said to it: "Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted, and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross—two long petals and two short petals. And in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see it will remember."

Woodman, spare that tree!
Touch not a single bough!
In youth it sheltered me,
And I'll protect it now.

—GEORGE P. MORRIS

There's a touch of Spring at Schrafft's
This year, above all, the colorful, heart-warming display of the Flower Show is a welcome vision to winter-worn Philadelphians. Feet may be weary but hearts are happy.
May we suggest you restore your energy and keep that lift of the spirit in the relaxing atmosphere of Schrafft's 1216 Chestnut Street. Enjoy good food —the finest drinks—or refreshments from the fountain—all designed to keep you in the springtime mood.
SCHRAFFT'S
1216 CHESTNUT STREET

Window Plants for Winter

By ANNE B. WERTSNER

Many gardeners are satisfied with a season which lasts only from frost to frost—from early April to mid-November. For nearly five months they do their gardening only in the seed catalogs. But those who have mastered the art and craft of growing house plants find enjoyment in gardening throughout the year.

Many years ago, before central heating became general in the United States, house plants could be found in nearly every home in winter time. As a matter of course, a few geraniums and begonias and other plants were taken indoors in the fall, and provided a windowful of greenery during the dull, drab days of midwinter.

The hot, dry air of the central-heated home has made it difficult to care for house plants. Fortunately, air-conditioning has restored to many American homes the healthful conditions which are essential to the successful growing of window gardens. In many others, a little forethought and intelligent care can make the indoor garden, in winter time, a constant joy and compensation for the dreariness of the outdoor garden.

A careful selection of house plants is a prime factor. The available amount of light and temperature conditions are equally important. It is necessary to plan the indoor garden for the "climate" in which it must grow.

It is also necessary to plan ahead, before hard winter drives us indoors. A successful garden of house plants is not merely an afterthought, following the first killing frost. Winter bloom depends largely on the treatment plants have been given throughout the season. As early as late August, or in the first few days of September, window plants should be lifted from the cinders in which their pots have been buried to the rim all summer. Extraneous roots are removed. The plants are well watered and kept in the shade for several days. Pruning may be necessary to improve their shape, but care should be taken not to remove any flower buds. The pots should be scrubbed, the drainage holes opened, the plants staked, if necessary.

"Pelargoniums" *Exhibit showing propagation from cuttings, by Mrs. Horace Paul Dormon, in The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Section, Philadelphia Flower Show, 1941.*

and a final dusting or spraying administered if insects are found.

The dusting is a simple matter. Fine sulphur and rotenone will be sufficient for most plants, though arsenate of lead may be needed if there are signs of damage by caterpillars, beetles and other chewing insects.

It must be emphasized that temperature has most to do with the success or failure of the indoor garden. Most house plants prefer a night temperature of from 50 to 65 degrees—which is also about right for human beings—and a day temperature of no more than 70 degrees. The plants may tolerate lower and higher temperatures, but excessive fluctuations in temperature reduce the plants' vitality and make them more susceptible to disease and to attack by insect pests.

Few people realize the great amount of water required by plants, whether they grow outdoors or indoors. A deficiency produces stunted, woody growth, and also develops small leaves which often drop off. Too much moisture causes brown tips on the leaves. Some plants, such as the cyclamen, are "drowned" by an excess of moisture and rot off at the crown. A good general rule is to take care that the plant is thoroughly moistened at all times, but does not stand in water. Fast-growing plants, like begonias and coleus, require more water than the slow-growing geraniums and lantanas.

House plants require winter feeding, since their roots are unable to range far afield for nourishment. Fertilizers may be applied directly, or mixed with a top dressing of soil. Liquid manure should only be applied after watering. For ferns or foliage plants, a watering every three weeks with a solution of one teaspoon of nitrate of soda to one and a half gallons of water will stimulate leaf growth.

The house plant needs rest, like every other growing thing. For this reason, all feeding should be omitted during the short days of December.

It is evident that the house plants are not merely transplanted specimens from the outdoor garden. Those who want a successful winter garden will plan for it early in the year. Potting should be done in the spring. Even the choice of pots is important. Porous pots supply certain amounts of potash, which glazed jardinieres do not. Care must be taken not to plant too deep, to allow enough water-space at the top, and to prepare the soil properly. A good potting mixture contains three portions of loam, one each of well-decayed manure, sand, leaf-mold or peat moss. After potting, plants should be placed outdoors for the summer. Their summer growth will produce blooms during the fall and winter.

Among the favorite house plants are begonias. There are many kinds, and some variety may be brought into bloom in every month of the year. They are adaptable to both sunny and shaded windows. All thrive best in a light, porous soil, and prefer a moist atmosphere. They vary greatly, all the way from the small-leaved B. foliosa to the large, pointed foliage

The Bartlett Way

Philadelphia, Pa. — Cynwyd 3200

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of B. ricinifolia. Others frequently grown are B. metallica, with bronzy leaves, B. Haageana, a desirable winter-flowering kind, and B. incarnata. B. rubra (B. coccinea) with its deep coral-red blooms that are unusually persistent, is recommended for home use, as are also B. Sandersonii, B. nitida, and B. Teastii. All are free flowering and not too vigorous in growth, which is an important consideration when space is limited. Rex Begonias are especially good for dark windows.

Geraniums are desirable for their flowers and foliage, and also for their fragrance. They prefer a soil that is not too rich, and a firm potting. Good drainage, not too much water, and abundance of sunlight are essential. One of the freest bloomers of the double varieties is Mrs. Lawrence, a shrimp-pink. La Favorita is a good double white. For successful winter bloom, the plants should be cut back in the spring and potted, plunging the pots deep in a bed of cinders or coarse soil in full sunlight for the summer. They will then save their strength for a fine show during the winter months.

Fuchsias offer richness of color and variety of form. A moist atmosphere and a soil rich in humus seem to supply their needs. They can be grown as climbers, as trailing plants, or as small or large pot plants. Well cared for, they may live for many years.

Cacti and succulents make very desirable house plants. They demand sunlight and good drainage, a rather lean soil, and moderate watering. Several species of mammillaria, echinocactus, and a few of the opuntias are the most desirable of the cacti. Among the useful succulents are the echeverias, the crassulas and the sempervivums. The kalanchoes are increasing in popularity, especially K. coccinea globulivera, distinguished by its bright coral-red flowers.

The shrimp plant (Beloperone guttata) is successful in a sunny window, requiring a firm soil. Also erlangea tomentosa, with its soft mauve flowers and gray foliage, resembling the fluffy heads of ageratum. Plumbago capensis is very desirable, and the plants may be grown as shrubs or climbers. A firm soil and a cool porch or window are its essential requirements.

Probably there are more failures than successes with the popular African violet. It is attractive in the florist's window, but it needs special care in the home. It prefers a light soil enriched with humus, good drainage, a moist atmosphere and a moderate temperature, no more than 60 degrees at night. In spring and summer, African violets prefer a north window; in winter they do well in partial sunlight. They should be watered from below with lukewarm water.

Ferns, vitis (grape ivy), dracaenas, pandanus, peperomia and Chinese evergreen (Aglaonema modestum) are very useful for locations which are shaded most of the time. English ivy, tradescantia, philodendron, umbrella plant (Cyperus alternifolius) and aglaonema may be grown in water, as well as in soil. Although they prefer sun, they can be grown where there is little direct sunshine.

Gardenias are a little difficult, but well worth the trouble it takes to raise them in the house. They require full sunlight by day, a night temperature of 60 degrees, and plenty of moisture both at the roots and in the air. Without constant moisture, the buds will drop. The quality of the water is important; hard water produces pale green or yellow leaves. This can be avoided by applying one-fourth teaspoonful of flowers of sulphur to a 6-inch pot every two months. Daily syringing with water does much to keep gardenias healthy. Even if they do not flower, their glossy leaves make them desirable for house plants.

We rarely realize how dry and dusty our homes are. But house plants, like all plants, breathe through their leaves, so it is necessary to wash the leaves regularly. A few plants, like Saintpaulia and the primroses, have a downy fuzz on the leaves, which should not come in contact with the water. These may be cleaned by brushing with a soft cloth or brush.

Drafts are deadly to many house plants. They belong, therefore, in a bay window or picture window which is not opened in winter time. Keep them away from currents of air induced by opening doors. Remember that they like moisture, but are unhappy if they are standing in water. Above all, they cannot stand an overheated house. Too much heat is probably the foremost cause of failure with house plants.

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Soil—It's More Than Just Dirt

By HARRY WOOD

Visitors to the Philadelphia Flower Show while walking through the aisles admiring the magnificent blooms of Rhododendrons and Azaleas, the Orchids, and the lovely little gardens, can hardly fail to marvel at the skill and effort required to produce such quality of bloom. Many factors contribute to this achievement and it may prove interesting to the layman to learn something about the problems of the grower, and how much knowledge he must have and how much care he must give to his plants.

Advancing the period of bloom from six weeks to two months is a feat in itself requiring careful timing and selection since not all plants will respond to forcing. In addition to starting the right plants at the right time, there must be constant attention to weather conditions which affect conditions in the greenhouse.

Finally, all these plants cannot be grown in the same kind of soil and so a thorough knowledge of soil mixture is of the greatest importance in growing plants, both indoors and out.

It is easy just to take soil for granted, especially for those people who live in cities and do not have to meet its problems. Yet our food is all dependent on the soil, either directly or indirectly through livestock. Only in the last two decades has there begun to be a widespread realization that our soils have been disappearing down creeks and rivers because of a lack of proper erosion control methods. Contour plowing, strip cropping, cover cropping and reforestation are foremost among these methods.

Basically, soil is broken-down rock, and many of the characteristics of a particular soil depend upon the kind of rock from which it was formed. The top layer of soil, the one which most concerns us, varies in thickness in different parts of the country from a few inches to about two feet. This top layer has been modified through many hundreds of years by the constant growth and decay of vegetation. This decaying organic matter is very important in altering the top layer. It makes the soil more porous, so the water and air can penetrate more easily, and also so that excess water can drain away. It improves the physical condition of the soil and helps make the mineral salts more available.

Constant cropping, especially with crops that leave

Part of the Flowering Apple Collection, Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation, Swarthmore College
Philadelphia Flower Show 1947

much of the soil bare for long periods, causes depletion of the soil in several ways. Organic matter breaks down, and disappears entirely if more is not added. Minerals are removed from the soil in the harvested crops. Also, the action of wind and rain on soil which is not held in place by the roots and tops of vegetation, causes serious erosion with the loss of both organic matter and minerals.

The old axiom that you can't take it out unless you put it in is as true of the soil as it is of bank accounts. Of course when land is first plowed and farmed, it can be just a matter of taking out. But this happy state of affairs lasts only a short time. Humus or organic matter and mineral salts must be returned continually to the land to maintain a proper balance and a good physical condition.

There are several methods which can be used to restore soils which have become impoverished. The humus content can be restored by the application of organics such as barnyard manure, peat, or by plowing under green crops such as clover or rye grass. These crops can often be sown when the crop which is to be harvested is still growing. Winter rye, for instance, can be sown late in the season and plowed under in the early spring. The most important mineral salts are those containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, which can be applied to the soil after the plowing has been completed. These same principles are applied to the growing of all plants, whether on the farm, in the suburban back yard, or in the greenhouse.

While a great majority of plants thrive in a neutral, or slightly acid soil, there are several groups which need a soil which is decidedly acid. Rhododendrons and Azaleas belong to this group, and the Camellias and many of our wildflowers which are to be seen in this show. If there is any doubt about soil acidity, a sample can be taken to the county agricultural agent, who makes an accurate test, and makes recommendations for the proper treatment. Growers who make a specialty of these plants use a soil not only acid, but very high in moisture-retaining organic matter such as peat.

If the plants which produced the magnificent roses, carnations, sweet peas and snapdragons for the show had been planted in the soil which is used for Azaleas, they would have never reached such a high degree of cultural perfection. The soil in which they flourish is close to neutral. The tiny rock plants which are at home high on mountainsides must be grown in a soil resembling that of their native homes, low in nitrogen, often very gravelly, and often high in lime content. In a rich soil they would grow themselves to death.

In contrast to all these plants, many of the orchids get along very nicely without any soil at all. In their native habitat they are found growing on trees. They are not parasites, but epiphytes, subsisting on moisture and nourishment from the air. In cultivation, they are grown in peat known as orchid peat, in a damp atmosphere. The temperature and humidity are of great importance.

The more we learn about conserving and replenishing this wonderful stuff—sometimes ignominiously called dirt—in which grow these beautiful flowers and the food to sustain our bodies, the more we come to respect our soil.

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By the winding River's edge
There has entered gladly, freely
Faith and Hope—a living pledge.
Hope that restless times are mending
Faith that God's way is the best,
And though we all may be bewildered
Our love, with His can meet the test.
So, in these crannied walls securing
Work for willing hands to do,
That birds might find a pool to splash in
And nearby fragrance gaily bloom anew.
Then the long, long years pursuing
The heels of today and yesterday,
May this quiet picture gently whisper
To our children's children
'Twas here we tried to pray.

—FLORENCE TONNER
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Make Your Gardening an Adventure

By GERTRUDE M. SMITH

THE easiest way to buy plants is to order some old favorite, the name of which has become familiar through the years. Coreopsis and Gaillardia, Poppy and Peony, these we know, and can visualize in our gardens. If we buy a Peony, we get Festiva Maxima, and if we get a Rose, only Paul's Scarlet will do. It is true that many old favorites are still high in quality when compared with new introductions. But on the other hand, many delightful surprises are waiting for those gardeners who have a streak of curiosity in them. The catalogs are full of wonderful names. More gardening pleasure is ours if we only will go out and find it.

We all know Iris, of course. Gardens are full of it. But do we still grow the rather dull colored kinds of twenty-five years ago? There are many fine varieties in the medium price range. Among them are Gudrun and Los Angeles, white; Great Lakes, Shining Waters and Missouri, blue purple; Dog Rose, pinkish; Dauntless, purplish red; President Pilkington and Rameses, blended colors; and California Gold and Elsa Sass, yellow. The Siberian Irises have many fine varieties. Now an old standby is the tall, dark blue Caesar's Brother. Tycoon, newer and finer, is still expensive but worth watching for. Snowcrest is a tall white, and Blue Flame and Mountain Lake are lighter blues. Entirely different is the dainty little dwarf Iris gracilipes, a lover of light shade and a soil high in humus.

The old Lemon Lily (Hemerocallis flava) has a flock of new relatives. Foremost among them is the light yellow, large flowered Hyperion, which blooms in midsummer. Gloriana, another summer bloomer, is a golden orange, very fine in form. The truly adventurous (and richer) should try some of the new so-called pinks and reds such as Rosalind (pinkish) and the reddish Wekiva, Theron, Red Bird and Robin Redbreast.

There is a whole new race of Peonies, crosses between the June Peonies and the old-fashioned red early "Pinies" of our grandmothers' gardens. These bloom in May, and include some very fine shades of cherry reds, salmons, deep crimsons and maroons. Most have single flowers and sturdy stems, so that the plants do not need staking. They are still fairly expensive and scarce. John Harvard is a clear dark red, Janet is bright cerise, Challenger and Defender are red, Hope a beautiful pink.

In addition to these well-known groups of plants there are many perennials, some long known in gardens, and some newcomers, which can brighten our gardens.

Among comparative newcomers is the hardy, Forget-me-not-like Brunnera macrophylla, usually listed as Anchusa myosotidiflora. It starts to bloom with the early Daffodils, and continues through Tulip time, a long period of about six weeks. It is excellent in shade. The Lungwort, Pulmonaria, is also an early bloomer, with flowers in blue or shades of pink resembling those of the popular Mertensia. A form with leaves spotted with white is the one best known, but the others are well worth trying.

The Epimediums are often seen in flower shows, but not used as much as they should be in gardens. Their neat, compact habit and their dainty foliage, attractive throughout the summer and autumn, make them excellent for edging. They bloom early, the flowers coming in white, yellow, or red and white combined. The young foliage is often lavender or bronzy, and some turn red in fall. Epimediums do well in medium shade.

Many gardeners try Lupines, but without success. Baptisia australis, sometimes called False Indigo, has spikes of violet-blue flowers in May which resemble Lupines. The plants are long-lived, improving each year, and the fine foliage is attractive through the summer, looking very well with plants like Lemon Lilies and Iris which have grass-like leaves.

The Gas Plant or Fraxinella (Dictamnus) is another long-lived plant. Its airy flowers rise on stalks about three feet high above dark green glossy leaves. They come in shades of rose, but are loveliest in pure white. It blooms in late spring. Quite different is the little Daisy known as White Swan, a double form of the common wild Daisy of the fields. This is a lovely little edging plant which must be divided each year. It blooms about Memorial Day, and is good for cutting.

The Thalictrums or Meadow Rues give height with their feathery heads of white, lavender or yellow bloom. The yellow Thalictrum glaucum combines well with Delphinium. The finely cut foliage stays attractive through the season.

In early June, the Goatsbeard (Aruncus sylvester, often called Spiraea Aruncus) gives a stately display of bloom in plumes four or five feet high. This rugged and attractive plant, native in rich soil from New York to Georgia, is happy in light shade, and suited for the back of the border.

Also native, but from farther west, are the various Sundrops or Evening Primroses so often seen in gardens. Commonest is Oenothera fruticosa, with large yellow flowers about two inches across in Mid-June. A white kind, Oenothera speciosa alba, should be used more. At this same time the Balloon-Flower (Platycodon grandiflorum) blooms, with flaring bells in white, blue, or white veined blue, on three-foot stems. This is another long-lived plant which resents moving.

The Astilbes, often sold in pots by florists under the name Spiraea, are June blossoms, their feathery

spires ranging in color from white through all shades of pink to deep garnet and ruby shades. They grow from about a foot to three feet in height, according to variety. They like good soil, and light shade, and should be divided every few years. Their foliage is attractive, often tinted deep red when it is unfolding.

The low Carpathian Bluebell (Campanula carpathica) gives scattered bloom all summer, in either blue or white. It is a good plant for edging, neat and adaptable.

For shady spots, the Plantain Lilies or Hostas, usually listed as Funkias, can be chosen for bloom from late June until September or October. Hosta fortunei and Hosta sieboldiana are grown for their large blue-green leaves, but their whitish flowers like elongated bells are also worth having. Many Hostas have variegated foliage, some having leaves splashed and striped with white, while others have a neat edge of white or yellow. Showiest in bloom, and very fragrant, is the old-fashioned August-blooming Hosta plantaginea, usually listed as Funkia subcordata. Smallest and daintiest is the one known as "minor alba." Hosta caerulea has an abundance of blue-lilac bloom in mid-summer.

August brings the showy blooms of the tall Phloxes. Very tall and very fine is Daily Sketch, a good pink with a dark eye. Enchantress and Salmon Glow are two fine medium-height salmons. Mary Louise is a good new white, also medium. The so-called blues and purples such as Maid Marian and Border Gem are a challenge to the gardener who delights in effective color combinations. The glowing carmine of Leo Schageter gives a wonderful spot of color when planted with whites and pinks.

In Autumn we have the many Michaelmas Daisies developed from the beautiful wild Asters of our roadsides and meadows. Harrington's Pink is a tall grower producing a profusion of clear pink stars. The dwarfer Beechwood Challenger is an emphatic crimson-red. There are many other Asters shading from pure white through pale blues and pinks to purple-blues and red-purples. They are at their best in sun, with continuous moisture through the summer.

Late October brings a last fine perennial into flower. This is Cimicifuga simplex, a lover of acid, humusy soil and light shade. It sends up its slender spires of white to a height of four or five feet, sharing the end of the season with the late Chrysanthemums.

Now another gardening season is beginning, and I, for one, expect to try something new this year. I am sending for several varieties of Liriope. I have one kind, I don't know which, but it is a wonderful ground cover for shade, with neat tufts of grassy foliage and low spikes of lavender flowers followed by glossy blue-black berries. These others will not be so very different, but they will make a little variation, and will be good planted in a shady spot with some Brunnera and Epimediums. Whenever I go to my favorite nurseries I will ask, "Have you anything new, strange and wonderful this year?" I hope the answer will be yes. We'll go out and look at some of the new things, discuss their possibilities and requirements, and I am sure to try a few. Some will be a disappointment, others will become a permanent part of my garden. I'll look up their names in my reference books and catalogs to find out where they came from, whether from distant China or Siberia, or from the garden of an enthusiastic plant breeder. Another year of gardening pleasure will be mine.

A light broke in upon my brain,
It was the carol of a bird;
It ceased and then it came again
The sweetest song ear ever heard

—Lord Byron

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Where East Meets West

By HENRY SKINNER

THE HORTICULTURAL heritage of Philadelphia is perhaps unequaled by any city in the United States. Philadelphia had the first botanic garden, its botanists have been renowned the world over and today it has fine gardens, small and large, and a people who appreciate them.

One such garden had its beginning in about the year 1890 at the summer home of a member of an old Philadelphia family, John T. Morris, in Chestnut Hill. Both Mr. Morris and his sister were ardent plant lovers, and through forty years they assembled on this estate of "Compton" trees, shrubs and plants of all descriptions from the far corners of the world. From Pekin and Yokohama, from England, France, Italy and Central America they came. Rarities were received from the famous Arnold Arboretum in Boston, products of the oriental expeditions of Professor C. S. Sargent, "Chinese" Wilson and others—and to all were added exotics from American nurseries and a host of the finest natives of the United States and Canada.

Surviving her brother by seventeen years, Miss Lydia Morris died in 1932. Through the generosity of these two devoted horticulturists, the estate of Compton became the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. As an arboretum it has thus become an outdoor museum where folk from all walks of life can enjoy this wealth of plants at any time; where nature study and the lore of living things will this year alone be taught to school children, scouts and brownies, numbering in the thousands; where university students study botany and where research is in progress on numerous phases of plant growth and culture. But above all this remains a garden in which Philadelphians can find relaxation in the quiet of old trees or amid the fragrance of roses on a June hillside, where bordered lawns slope down to sparkling brooks, where the spell of the orient is entwined in the sweeping branches of a Dragons-eye Pine above an old pagoda, or where wooded cliffs are reflected in placid stretches of the winding Wissahickon.

There is scarcely any one "best" time to visit this garden in Chestnut Hill for there is no month of the year when beauty and interest cannot readily be found. If flowers are the main attraction, Spring is of course the blossom season. From the opening of the first daffodils and the Star Magnolia in early April the changing color pattern of a host of woody plants builds to a climax from mid-May to early June. Cherries, Magnolias, Forsythias and early Azaleas

Joint Exhibit of Morris Arboretum and Scott Horticultural Foundation

from the Far East strike the first strong chords. But these have scarcely faded when the pattern is already interwoven with the creamy candles of native Buckeyes, the snowy bells of the southern Halesias, the white crosses of Pennsylvania Dogwood, with Persian and French Lilacs, with the whites of Spiraea and Viburnum and on through Crabapple time in May to the high brilliance of mid-season Azaleas and Rhododendrons. A special feature is the rock wall surrounding the Rose Garden. In early May this wall becomes a color tone cascade from the hundreds of rock and alpine plants finding anchorage between its stones. The roses, in formal arrangement, attain their color height in June, and again in Fall if frosts are not too early.

Summer is the time for foliage, for deepening greens and restful shadows, yet in abated measure the flower show continues. The yellows of Varnish and Japanese Pagoda trees, the million candles of the Dwarf Horse-chestnut, Spiraeas, Hydrangeas and many more lead on by degrees to the later blossoms of Rose of Sharon, Chaste Shrub, the Virginsbower Clematis, Bluebeard, and last of all, the native Witch-hazel. But with the passing season interest shifts from flowers to the glistening fruits which are now everywhere in abundance until, as sunny days are succeeded by the first cold nights, the coloring of the great Sour Gums near the rose garden comes as a crimson signal and the whole landscape bursts suddenly into a glory of color which even Spring can scarcely excel.

It is perhaps in winter that the evergreens come most into their own. It is then that the Yews, Boxwoods and berry-bedecked Hollies, the Pines, Spruces, Firs, the true Cedars from Kashmir, Africa and Lebanon with their upright egg-shaped cones; the small but thriving specimen of a Giant Redwood and a host of other conifers afford endless interest of line, color, history and behavior. If the weather is cool a warming welcome awaits in the one of several greenhouses which with its stream and grottoes, displays an indoor world of tropical ferns, a never failing attraction especially to the younger generation of visitors.

These are the scenes with which visitors become most familiar. It is more in the background of the garden or arboretum, in the greenhouses, laboratories, offices and herbarium that evidence of other kinds of activities is found. Thousands of potted seedlings now in the greenhouses are the young hopefuls of a program of plant improvement by selection and hybridization; powdery coal in pots and beds is associated with a tree repopulation project in the Pennsylvania coal barren region; strange heiroglyphics attached to trees throughout the grounds are linked with the testing of new chemicals for the control of pests and diseases, just as dozens of white bags on the taller trees in summer time are evidence of the very long time project in breeding for improvement of tree types which is sponsored by the U. S. Forest Service through the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. All this and more. Reports of such projects appear from time to time in the *Bulletin* which is published by the Associates, a group of supporting friends of the Arboretum.

An herbarium for the identification of woody plants is housed in the Administration Building, together with a branch of the University Library which is available for public reference at any time during office hours.

For those who are so fortunate as to possess a car, the Morris Arboretum is readily approached by way of Germantown Avenue or the Bethlehem Pike. It is bounded on its three sides toward Philadelphia by Germantown, Hillcrest and Stenton Avenues, with one gate on Hillcrest and another on Meadowbrook Lane, one block off Stenton Avenue. By public transportation one may choose between the Broad Street Subway to Olney Avenue and the "L" bus to Hillcrest Avenue, the No. 23 trolley on Germantown Avenue or the Reading or Pennsylvania Railroads to Chestnut Hill, transferring in each case to the "L" or Erdenheim bus in Chestnut Hill for the 4-minute ride to Hillcrest Avenue. Visitors are welcomed every day of the week, including Sunday, between the hours of nine A.M. and five P.M. Admission is free.

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New Varieties, 1948

By PATRICIA SPOLLEN

An impressive number of new varieties appear in 1948 catalogues. Some have already been singled out for All-America Selections awards and other honors, but the catalogues still contain others deserving of special notice. They include annual and perennial flowers, roses, shrubs and even a new tree.

Among annuals, new dwarf nicotiana Daylight is outstanding. It is said to stay open all day. The standard nicotiana is widely grown in spite of its bedraggled morning appearance, so this one ought to be even more popular.

OTHER NEW ANNUALS

Aster Ballet Queen is a refreshing, graceful, many-petaled variety in a deep, non-fading rose shade long needed in this flower. Sunflower Redwood Empire is a blend of red-flaring and red-zone types, with flowers about five inches in diameter.

A new strain of calendulas and one of scabiosas are available. The calendulas have been developed for heat resistance and for large flowers on long stems. They are about six inches taller than older calendulas. Variety names suggest the colors: Apricot Beauty, Lemon Beauty and Persimmon Beauty. The new scabiosas, called Scabiosa Vaughan's Super-Crown Imperial Hybrids, have large, globular flowers at least two inches in diameter, with broad wavy petals.

Of all the perennials, daylilies bred by Dr. A. B. Stout of the New York Botanical Garden are pre-eminent. He has ten new ones, no less, and retains a firm impartiality about their relative merits. Manchu is apricot-orange with a greenish yellow throat. Rose Gem, with blooms nearly six inches wide, is old rose. Viking, of "commanding appearance," is a rich orange red.

Two delphiniums are available. One, named Glorious and described as boisterous and breath-taking, is a deep royal purple. The lowest florets on the spikes are still in bloom when the top buds open. It grows four or more feet tall, and belongs to the Northern New York strain that has been bred for hardiness. The other, Pink Sensation, is not really new but is on the market in quantity for the first time this year. It has light, airy spikes three to three and one-half feet tall, and many of them.

FIVE OLD FAVORITES

Improvements on five dependable, easy-to-grow old favorites sound promising. Anthemis Golden Dawn is fully double. Coreopsis Baden Gold has giant, five-inch yellow blooms. Helenium Sunburst is bright yellow. Aglaya shasta daisy is double, long lasting, and hardy, and excellent as a cut flower. Aster Olga Keith is like the well-known Violetta, but mauve-pink.

Chrysanthemums have many new varieties for 1948. Outstanding in the very hardy De Petris strain are Mary MacArthur in raspberry pink and Verona in coral shrimp pink. Of the Ohio strain, one that was a huge success when shown last fall is named Mayor James A. Rhodes. Fully double, this is burgundy red with yellow on the reverses, and it has the size and appearance of an English chrysanthemum but the vigor and hardiness of Ohio kinds.

From a nursery that specializes in 'mums comes Carnival, with dark green foliage carried to the ground, and burnt orange, three-inch blossoms. Their new Mellow Gold is soft orange buff

Lilies introduced by a widely known hybridizer will bring beautiful new bloom to the garden this summer. One called the Rose Lily looks like the Madonna kind, but its trumpets are deep rose. Another trumpet has deep purple coloring. Two others, however, are considered by the nursery to be "our greatest step forward in the field of lily hybridizing." Both have cup-shaped lilies with flowers similar to, but larger than, L. umbellatum. They differ only in that one holds its blooms upright and the other has flowers facing at right angles from the stems. They range from yellowish orange through the orange reds to a dark mahogany red, and a few are true yellow.

Two new roses come from a specialist. Autumn

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Bouquet is a husky shrub rose, four feet or more tall, with pink flowers that appear from June to frost. The constant array of bloom is most unusual in a shrub rose.

PINK SATIN

The name Pink Satin describes the color and texture of another rose from the same firm. This is a large-flowered floribunda, very fragrant, vigorous and extremely hardy. It received much favorable comment in its testing grounds at the New York Botanical Garden last summer.

Grace Moore is a deep red hybrid tea, vivid and much admired in test plantings. Golden Anniversary is a vigorous yellow hybrid tea whose heavy and continuous flowering is unusual. Hill's Hillbilly, bearing the name of its originator, is a graceful pink floribunda that produces very large trusses of flowers all summer. Hill Top, a hybrid tea, is pinkish-buff.

Big news in shrubs is a lilac. Clarke's Giant has, believe it or not, flower clusters twelve inches or more long and seven or eight inches wide at the base. Individual flowers are up to one and one-half inches across. It is soft gentian blue.

Rose-Gold pussywillow has dwarf plants—four to five feet—but enormous catkins—about three inches long. Buds show color about ten days earlier than the usual pussywillow.

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"Let Us Spray"

Winter's nearly past and done;
Let us spray;
Buds are swelling in the sun;
Let us spray;
Sap is rising from the root;
Leaves and blossoms start to shoot;
If we hope to pick the fruit,
Let us spray.
Johnny go and get your gun;
Let us spray;
Time the battle was begun;
Let us spray;
Death to every insect thug;
Death to beetle, blight and bug;
Slaughter every slimy slug;
Let us spray.
Insects are the farmer's foe;
Let us spray;
Aphis and curculio;
Let us spray;
Every sort of deadly germ,
Coddling moth and canker worm,
If we want to make them squirm,
Let us spray.
Bug and blight and worm and scale,
Let us spray;
Else our crops are due to fail;
Let us spray;
And never pass the stable by,
The chicken coop, the lowly sty,
For there is bred the household fly,

By DON F. ROSE

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BELLEVUE-STRATFORD HOTEL

Gardening Throughout the Year

By CAROLINE J. BENDER

MARCH

The lawn is now calling for attention. The litter caused by winter storms should be removed and a good feeding should be given. Grass seed for new lawns and for renovating poor spots should be sown now. As soon as the ground can be dug, shrubs and trees can be planted. Sweet peas, if they were not planted in the fall, must be planted now. Rye grass, planted last fall, can now be turned under to rot before the ground is spaded a second time in May. Trees and shrubs should be sprayed and should be fed. Lime should be sprinkled over ground where it is needed. The covering over spring flowering bulbs can now be removed.

APRIL

Garden work now starts in earnest. As soon as the ground is in workable condition, crumbly moist, spading can be started, well decomposed material from the compost pile being worked into the ground at the same time. By this time it is usually safe to remove the covering from perennials. Perennials of the later blooming varieties can be divided and planted towards the end of the month. As soon as the delphinium starts growth it is well to spray with Bordeau Mixture. We like to sow about half of our quantity of seeds of hardy annuals in prepared seed beds out of doors now. Sometimes there will be failure, but it is worth taking a chance for some early bloom. Spring flowering bulbs are now in bloom. It is a good time to note where additions are wanted for next year's bloom. If you want some wild flowers in your garden and want to help preserve our wild flowers, it might be well to tour the surrounding suburbs and see where land is being cleared for new houses and roads and get permission to remove what wild plants you want. A stretch of open woodland will usually contain wild geranium, blood-root, saxifrage, spring-beauties, rue anemone, and dogwood and spice bush —all desirable in the garden.

MAY

During this month there is much to be done. Evergreens such as yews and hemlock can be pruned before new growth starts. Spraying for red spider, aphids, black-spot, etc., is now in order. We should not let weeds get a head start. The delphinium need staking. Annuals grown in flats in-doors may be transplanted into the flower beds. Seeds of tender annuals and of perennials may be sown in out-door seed beds. Chrysanthemums should be divided—each slip with a few roots planted to make a new plant. When the lilacs, azaleas and tulips have shed their blossoms, the seed pods should be removed. Toward the end of the month Ismene lily can be planted; this with a foreground planting of Chinese delphinium makes a beautiful spot in the garden.

JUNE

The transplanting of annuals should be completed during the first part of this month. The spring flowering shrubs should be pruned at this time and a second feeding and a mulch given to the broadleaved evergreens. We divide and plant iris while we still remember where we wanted more of them. Delphinium and all perennials need to be fed at this time. Chrysanthemums need their first pinching back to four sets of leaves to a stem, this to be continued periodically until about the middle of July. Stakes for these plants should be set in now. Seed pods of peonies, iris and daylilies should be removed. Weeds at this time, if not kept under control will soon swamp the garden. Soft wood cuttings may be taken from bleedingheart for the propagation of new plants.

JULY

During this month we weed, water, mulch, and mow. The lawn requires much care. So do the flower beds. We water well rather often. The soil in the flower beds should be kept loose and weed free. It is well to apply mulch but first lime should be

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sprinkled on the ground because some mulches create acidity. All tall plants should now be staked. Frequent spraying for aphids, red spiders, Japanese beetles, Asiatic beetles, etc., should be continued. Phlox and veronica should be kept from seeding to prolong their blooming period. Seeds of marigolds and zinnias and torenia may still be planted for a late display if the seed-bed is kept shaded. Peonies need feeding this month for good bloom next year. Cuttings may be taken from azaleas and from various perennials to start new plants.

AUGUST

Now the annuals are in full bloom and the garden looks very gay and again we look it over critically to see which combinations are good and which poor so that we may do better next year. All ground that is not mulched should be kept loose and weed-free. Oriental poppies may now be divided and planted. It is also time to plant Madonna Lilies and fall crocus, sternbergia, and colchicum. Cover crops can now be planted wherever there is available space. Seeds of pansy, English daisy, and forget-me-not should now be sown in the cold-frame.

SEPTEMBER

Now we are already beginning to prepare for next year's garden. New lawns should be sown now. We can start making over the perennial borders, for the earlier blooming perennials can now be divided and planted. The early flowering spring bulbs can be planted as soon as they arrive. Evergreens can now be moved. It is a good time to plant many of our choicest wild-flowers. Many of our perennials are still in bloom so we make note of which ones we want to place in new combinations next year. New peonies can be planted now. But this year's flowers still need care. Chrysanthemums, delphiniums, and phlox still need water and food. Chrysanthemums need disbudding for larger bloom. Spraying is still in order. A fall planting of the seeds of the following annuals is recommended—larkspur, sweat pea, calendula, and centauria.

OCTOBER

With good luck the garden is still quite gay with marigolds and zinnias, and chrysanthemums are blooming. Nevertheless, we begin preparing for winter. Evergreens should go into the winter with a good supply of moisture. Newly planted perennials should be mulched to give their roots a chance to develop. What leaves have fallen can be left on the ground for the time being for some will fall apart and those small particles act as good mulch for the grass. We continue making over flower beds. We dig up all bulbs which need winter storage. Lilies are planted as soon as we can get them.

NOVEMBER

This is definitely a clean-up month. All leaves

raked up are put on the compost pile. Stalks of dead flowers it is well to burn. Chrysanthemums, after finishing blooming, should be cut down. Oakleaves are a valuable mulch for all evergreens, azaleas, and blueberries, and wild-flowers. Pieces of chicken wire will hold them down. A good compost should be spread over lawns that need improving. Roses should be heeled up with about eight inches of soil covered with leaves. Tulip bulbs must be planted this month. Heavy jobs like grading, making drainage ditches, and preparing cold frames may well be done now.

DECEMBER

During this month we finish our November chores and put up bird feeding stations. We clean up our tools before putting them away. We put a shovelful of ashes over each delphinium plant. And we begin to dream of the improvements we will make in the garden next year and vow we will do at the proper time all of the things we neglected to do this year.

JANUARY

Christmas decorations have made us conscious of the many kinds of plants that can be grown in the home garden that will give material for wreaths and bouquets for the holiday season. Rhododendron, laurel, andromeda, leucothoë, galax, and ground-pine; bayberry, firethorn, viburnum watsoni, holly, etc., all can be grown in the Philadelphia locality. As we look over the snowy January garden we see where more evergreen shrubs could be used to give substance to the garden planting. If more berried shrubs are needed, it is well to consult local nurserymen to find out which berries last well into the winter. This is also the time to study the general plan of the garden well and to draw sketches of changes to be made. It is a good time to read up on subjects we wished we knew more about during the previous growing season. And it is a good time to start putting bird food in the garden, if we haven't done so already.

FEBRUARY

Still winter, but occasionally there are warm, bright days that make us want to go out and work in the garden. Trees and grapevines can be pruned now. But there is plenty to do indoors—sprays and dusts to be got in readiness for the coming growing season, tools to be looked over and sharpened if necessary, and seeds to be ordered. Seed flats can be prepared and in them sown the seeds of such slow-growing annuals as petunia, lobelia, snapdragon, aster, and ageratum, and of delphinium for a first year bloom in the fall.

You will find many new and exciting things, as well as the old standbys, to be used in connection with your garden, at the new Dreer store, 13 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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The Philadelphia Rose Society

AFFILIATE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

Roses—the old, old standby of beauty and romance. Very often one hears, among amateur gardeners, of the failures or partial failures they have with their roses. A few simple rules followed will give you roses in your garden that are a joy for all to behold.

First of all, select a well drained spot, also one protected from strong winds. Make sure that water never stands around the roots for that will suffocate them. If possible, choose a slightly raised piece of ground making doubly sure of water protection of the roots.

Beside good drainage and some protection from wind, your rose bed must have good soil. When spading the rose bed be sure to prepare the soil 12″ to 16″ deep. A mixture enjoyed by your roses would be one part well-rotted manure and two parts peatmoss to ten parts of soil thoroughly mixed.

Now that the bed is prepared you are ready for the planting. If your nurseryman has not pruned back the top, prune so that you have stems 6 to 8″ long. Remove any weak or broken branches. Only if roots have been bruised or broken should they be pruned.

Dig the hole, making sure that it will accommodate the roots without bending, and be careful that there are no air pockets left around the roots. The union between the scion (bud) and the understock should be just below the surface of the soil.

Making sure that the roots are correctly spread when the bush is in position, work a little soil carefully around the roots to make sure that you have left no air pockets. When the hole is about two-thirds full, pour in part of a pail of water to settle the soil, and bring it close to all the roots. When the water has all seeped in, the remainder of the hole may be filled, firming it as you fill.

The planting is now finished, but a mound of soil should be placed as high as possible around the stem. No harm will be done if you completely cover it. Your bush is now ready to withstand the winter months.

The best time for planting roses is in the fall when the bush has started its rest period. You can best learn the proper time by consulting your nurseryman. He will be glad to advise you, since he, too, wishes your roses to be most successful.

There are so many varieties of roses in gorgeous colors, that with careful selection, you can have roses for all occasions at various times of blooming.

For the house select hybrid Teas, for long stems choose Katherine T. Marshall, Charlotte Armstrong, Countess Vandal, Show Girl (unusual pink) Poinsettia. For unusual coloring try Fiesta, Boudoir, Fred Edmunds, Peace, Gray Pearl. For whites and creams —McGredy's Ivory, White Briarcliffe, Lily Pons. Extremely fragrant—Crimson Glory, Girona, Neige Parfum, Dicksons Red, Hector Dean, Mirandy. Long lasting yellows—Marie Curie, Eclipse, Mrs. Pierre S. duPont, Lowell Thomas, Mandalay. For miniature bouquets or corsages—Pink Aachen, Rose Elfe, Pinkie, Floribundas, Pinocchio. For bright borders—Carillon, Goldilocks, Mexico, Worlds Fair, A Grille, Floribundas, Floradora.

If you have shrubbery borders that need to be brightened, try Betty Price, Red Ripples, Pink Bountiful, Permanent Wave, Floribundas. For the best effect in your shrubbery border, these should be planted in groups.

It is fun to have some of the tiny varieties in your rock garden. One seldom looks there for roses and they just seem to stick their little heads out and say, "Look, I'm a rose, here in the rock garden." For this purpose or for potting, use Tom Thumb, Midget, Gold Star, Pixie, Sweet Fairy, Roulette, Oakington Ruby.

With all these varieties to choose from, there is no reason why each and everyone of us cannot have exactly what we want in roses in our very own garden.

Dr. R. C. Allen, Secretary of American Rose

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Society, inspired the organization of this affiliate of the national society.

From March 1947 to January 1948 its membership growth has been over 600%. Its membership includes all those interested in rose growing and horticulture —commercial growers, supply firms, professionals, plant scientists, and the home gardener. The officers and directors, and the control of the society are in the hands of the amateur home gardener.

A well rounded plan in education includes—class studies, lecturers, public and private garden visitations, movies and kodachrome pictures of members' gardens and their trips in visiting other gardens, an advisory buying aid service, exhibits of their accomplishments in growing, in a June Festival in a city department store, and in the Fall in their society meeting place, advisory aid in use of flowers in home decoration. A further aid in keying the work of the society to the desires of its members, a box at each meeting for questions and one for suggestions.

The public appreciation to the 1947 June Rose Festival was 35,000 attendance to see 6500 blooms in 800 vases staged by about 30 housewife gardeners with 163 awards made for over 200 varieties.

The membership dues are nominal, for yearly active, or for 3-year active, or life, or patron, classes of membership. Those who have done outstanding work in horticulture are extended Honorary Memberships.

One of the main objectives is the aid and sponsorship of much needed Public Rose Gardens for this general metropolitan area. This as a separate Foundation created by all interested in our areas' beauty, and welfare, also brings in the cooperative interests of our recognized commercial rose growing firms.

It's fun to pick a new blown rose,
To sprinkle with a leaky hose;
It's fun to plant and nurture seeds,
To jerk out the unwanted weeds;
It's fun to do these, by a test,
But oh how nice to sit and rest.

—LAURA JAMES

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Strafford, Pennsylvania

Garden Color — "Gaudy Dutch"

By FRANCES LICHTEN, *Author of* "Folk Art of Rural Pennsylvania"

THE EASTERN counties of Pennsylvania are colorful ones; the soil is a warm red and its diverse crops impose a vari-colored pattern of vegetation. On these multi-colored fields are set, not only the great and characteristic Pennsylvania German red barns with their flaunting decorations, but their newer replacements, painted in pastel grays, yellows, whites and pale greens. But it is not only the color of rural architecture which adds to the gayety of this well-to-do countryside, though it makes a larger contribution than in other sections of the land. There is plenty of additional color in livelier forms which is disclosed by a leisurely survey of any of our less-travelled thoroughfares. In the winter every farm and village window is as gay as a Pennsylvania German quilt—and there is nothing more colorful than those examples of folk art—as the exhibits of our notable county fairs will demonstrate. In the summer, gardens are displays of primary color, with purples, reds and pinks far in the lead; not for these rural folk are the subtle shades, those developed in the floral hybrids—the delicate mauves, the off-yellows, faint pinks and lilacs. These they consider "washed-out," a term which they consider equally applicable to fabrics showing the same refinement of hues.

The beautiful window gardens of the Pennsylvania German farmhouses are one of the few outlets left for the personal expression of the "Pennsylvania Dutch" ingrained love of color and pattern. Many years ago, those craftsmen who made the decorated dower chests and furniture, the unique ceramics, the brilliant woven coverlets, the bright and beautiful "taufscheine" or birth certificates in order to satisfy this love of decoration disappeared from everyday life, for the industrial age had no place for them. But the love for design and bright hues continues and the Pennsylvania farm woman finds in her window gardens a pleasure which gratifies not only her eye but her creative sense. While she cares for her thriving house plants with which she fills every available window, she can revel daily in the clash of scarlet against magenta, lemon, and purple, of green against orange and pink. These startling color schemes—so recently taken up by modern arbiters of fashion and labelled Brazilian, Ecuadorian, or nondescript "peasant"—have always been a commonplace to the country woman, who noted them continually in her collections of handsome potted specimens.

The Pennsylvania German women in particular have always had great "luck" with plants. In the face of present day tastes, which prefer foliage in its normal and monotonous green, patterned and multi-colored leaves have always had a particular appeal for them; richly variegated coleus and fancy-leaved geraniums will always be an integral part of their collections. They take an enormous but quiet pride in the fine condition in which they keep their plants and like to share that pride with the passerby. Once in a small neat town, I saw an extraordinary specimen of an African violet, displayed at the street window with the pot tilted in such a manner that its purple perfection could not fail to catch the eye of everyone. It was obvious that the owner, having brought it to this superb state, felt that she had a creative share in producing its innumerable blossoms, and, in the identical spirit that makes an artist exhibit his paintings, she was displaying her own artistry in her private gallery—the parlor window.

So generally superior is the quality of the house-plant in the care of the Pennsylvania German woman, that a glance at the windows of a house will often furnish a clue to the ancestral background of the inhabitants. Travel any main road out of Philadelphia, and when every window you see is crowded with a mass of superbly healthy plants, instead of a few non-too-flourishing specimens, you will know you have arrived in the "Pennsylvania Dutch" country. Even in the busiest of families, it is evident that house plants are looked on as a decorative feature and a certain amount of care now goes into their display. The earlier generation housed them frankly in old tin cans—still admirable containers. The present one will use the same container but will feel that it needs embellishing. I noted a delightful example of this recently in the Amish region of a neighboring county. On the side porch of a grey house whose trim and shutters were yellow-green, the house plants were collected, ready for the winter. Rows of shelves, each edged with a neat bordering of colorful shelf paper, were filled with slips set in cans, no longer left in the unattractiveness of their original tin, but now painted a smart green-blue, thanks to the ease with which enamel can be applied. The pride of the whole collection was a flowering plant unknown to me.

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"Achimenes," said my companion, and whether that splash of clear lilac-blue blossoms has a common name or not, I have never found out, but I shall not easily forget the charming picture of the winter plants and the sweet-faced owners, an elderly Amish couple, whose black Sunday garb added a distinctive accent to the white, green-blue and lavender display.

Enamel paint has been greatly responsible for the appearance of notes of color not planned for by the ordinary experts in decoration. It lends itself to the most novel and engaging of fancies. As the "Pennsylvania Dutch" are not hampered by conventional ideas in their garden schemes, and as they are outstandingly neat housekeepers, both indoor and out, it is natural for them to apply paint to surfaces usually left untouched. Whitewashed boulders are a commonplace but enamelled cobblestones are a new note in gardening, I believe. Carefully selected for size and texture, and then colored in red, orange, yellow and turquoise blue, such stones were used to form a striking border around an unique floral specimen—in this case a rose bush blossoming in a strange brick-red. So much did they resemble giant Easter eggs that I returned for a second glance to reassure myself that I was seeing only another example of the perennial love of color and not a remnant of a past holiday on display. Another similarly neat-minded woman used flat stones, painted in equally bright colors to support her rock garden terrace.

To really enjoy the examples of bright color one can collect on one's journeyings in the Pennsylvania countryside, one should set out with a mind freed from the standardized ideas on the subject—ideas which preclude one from appreciating the novelties one comes across. A trip into Lancaster County on a calm October Sunday disclosed an unforgettable specimen, inconceivably bold in conception. It consisted of nothing but magenta coxcombs, hundreds of feet of them, practically all the same height which was in no case more than a foot. This army of floral soldiers—for that is what they resembled—marched in single file up and down the immaculate edges of the cement garden walks and stood on the top of a terrace in a thin but gaudy line in front of a paling fence, painted a blue-green—the precise hue needed to enhance the already unbelievable magenta of the huge fan-shaped heads. Their own yellow-green foliage and the everyday hue of the grass-covered terrace only heightened the poster-like quality of the scheme.

The old lady who originated this unusual display beamed shyly when praised for the striking effect she had created. It is one which would be hard to duplicate, for in all probability the strain of coxcombs which produced this remarkably uniform plant is no longer on the market. For over forty years she herself had saved the seed from one year to the next and never in all that time had the coxcombs failed her; a pleasant testimony not only to native thrift but to wonderful gardening ability.

A sight common in the Pennsylvania Dutch counties is the local use of Virginia creeper as a substitute for an awning or porch screen. In the fall it seems as if every porch in the small villages in certain neighborhoods is hung with rich red-purple valances and draperies which turn out to be on examination, nothing but *ampelopsis quinquefolia,* our ordinary wild climber, the Virginia creeper. And extremely handsome it is!

Many of these old-fashioned ideas are still of value. But it takes courage to flout conventional planting schemes, to depart from the traditional climbers used as porch decoration. What sedate suburbanite, no matter how he longs to plant an ornamental gourd vine, would dare ignore the newest fashionable climber—the one approved by all his neighbors—and use instead on his veranda, the curious gourd of many and intriguing forms? The countryman has no such inhibitions. He may not know much about the latest horticultural fashion but he knows what he likes; if he wants to plant gourds as a green climbing drapery on his front porch he does so and he as well as the infrequent passerby can take delight in the strange effect which the vines and their pendant fruits present after frost has stripped them of their leaves. In late October, the front porch resembles nothing so much as a booth at a fair hung with a display of small articles intended to attract custom. The once flourishing stems of the vine have been reduced to naked cords laced carelessly back and forth between the porch pillars and from them depend the varicolored and many-shaped gourds, black and yellow, green and brown, looking for all the world like gay bits of peasant pottery hung there for sale. And the earthy colors of the gourds are the very colors with which the early potters worked. If it were possible for an 18th century craftsman to see this display of horticultural ceramics, he might feel that his once familiar world—that of Southeastern Pennsylvania, had changed but very little from the time when his own earthenware vessels and mugs, little pitchers and cups could have challenged the bright-hued gourds.

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Birds of the Philadelphia Area

By MRS. EVERETT S. GRISCOM, *Chairman, Conservation Council*

It is fitting that the Philadelphia Flower Show program should give recognition to the wild bird life in the Philadelphia area. Without these capable, highly-trained, non-striking "conservers of vegetation," there might be few flowers to show!

Fairmount Park and the Wissahickon in City limits proper, with the valleys of the Schuylkill, the Delaware, the Pennypack and some minor streams, included in this area, afford many opportunities for wild birds to "ply their trade" where we can see them and note their work.

One need not be a "prophet" to foretell that when these mistreated streams are cleared and cleaned, as Governor Duff has promised they will be, the wild bird life in the Philadelphia area will be noticeably increased, and we, our homes, our gardens, will profit thereby. And right now, each of us should be deeply concerned to help bring about this sorely-needed Conservation of Philadelphia's Natural Resources, for the welfare of all life!

Most of us do not realize the number of wild birds to be seen in the Philadelphia area, nor their value to us, economically and aesthetically. A partial Roll Call thereof may help to emphasize the facts.

Among our native wild birds are members of the Thrush family, continually waging war against some of the most destructive "hordes" in garden, field and woods, and withal, pleasant to the eye and delightful to the ear.

Longfellow, speaking of the family in "Birds of Killingworth," reminds us of the aesthetic sire of birds:

"The Thrush that carols at the dawn of day
From the green steeple of the piney wood;
The Bluebird, balanced on some top-most spray,
Flooding with melody the neighborhood."

The closely-related *Wood Thrush, Robin* and *Bluebird* are resident hereabouts, and will so continue if we make it possible for them to stay by providing shelter from storms and enemies, and ample opportunities to find food, water and safe home-sites.

Veery, Olive-backed, Graycheeked and *Hermit Thrushes* pause spring and fall, to and from their summer and winter homes, to share in the surplus larvæ and grub tid-bits found in newly-made flowerbed, or fall garden, giving thanks for "the pause that refreshes" in soft, vibrant tones.

Most of the Thrush family are garbed in soft gray-olive and brown—a quiet elegance of costume with behavior to match and voice of exquisite beauty and tenderness. *Robin* and *Bluebird* are admitted to this family circle by reason of the polka-dot vests their children wear! The *Bluebird* is the really "gay" member, with what John Burroughs describes as "the color of the sky on the back, the tone of the earth on the breast, a working combination of the Divine and the human, as we also should be."

Louisiana and *Northern Water Thrushes* (not Thrushes at all but belonging to the Warbler family) may be seen on or near the banks of the Wissahickon, their dark, olive-brown jackets and striped vests jauntily shedding the spray as they "teeter" gaily over the slippery stones on their endless quest for aquatic insects, beetles, moths.

With them is sometimes seen the *Spotted Sandpiper,* identified by the distinctly spotted underparts, and by the almost incessant "teetering," as tho' unable otherwise to keep balance!

Woodcock, and *Wilson's Snipe,* members of the Sandpiper family, are chunky, brownish birds, with very long bills with which they probe into damp, muddy ground for earth-worms, grubs and larvæ, besides taking toil of grasshoppers, cut-worms, etc.

Catbird and *Brown Thrasher* delight in tangles of raspberry and blackberry vines, densities that can be made attractive to human eyes as well as "safety zones" for bird life.

Once in a while, a *Mockingbird*—head of this family of mimics—comes, this far North to nest, and gives an added thrill to some quiet, human listener.

Wrens—those "irrepressible bits of energy"—are widely scattered throughout the area. *House Wrens,* bubbling and scolding as they pry out innumerable spiders and "wee beasties" about house and barn and garage. *Carolina Wrens,* largest of the family, whose ruddy coat, clear white line over the eye and clear ringing whistle identify them. *Winter Wrens,* wee, dark-brown, stubby-tailed chaps, continually bobbing in and out of all sorts of odd places, and letting their funny little "alarm clocks run down"! Both *Marsh Wrens* are seen and heard in the Tinicum Marshes, and infrequently, a *Bewick's Wren* can be identified flirting a long tail in some out-of-the-way corner.

Black-capped Chickadee and *Tufted Titmouse*—the former with black cap, black bib and white face

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—the latter mouse-blue gray, with bluish-gray tuft—cover great distances searching trunks and branches for eggs and larvæ, even poising on fluttering wings to snatch a moth from the outermost tip of a twig.

Both the *Red-* and the *White-breasted Nuthatches* scurry up and down tree trunks—head up—head down—it matters not—often hurrying along the under side of a branch to spy out the hidden foe.

Brown Creeper—so named because of the habit of creeping up and around a tree, pausing to use the long, curved bill as a lever to loosen a clinging grub or a cluster of eggs—dropping lightly to near the base of another tree, repeating his careful survey.

Kinglets, both the *Golden* and the *Ruby-crowned* —olive-gray, butterfly-like mites, do a work all out of proportion to their size in eliminating the various aphides that infest many plants, bushes and trees, especially the Hemlocks. There is no prettier sight than these fluttering fairies poised on gauzy wings under a feathery hemlock branch, greedily gathering the tiny insects that cling to the green needles!

The Kinglets' somewhat larger "first cousin," the *Blue-Gray Gnat Catcher,* is a spritely, long-tailed combination of blue-gray and white, elusive in color and in song—helping the Kinglets by devouring myriads of the plant lice that are so destructive to vegetation.

Smaller than the Kinglet is

"The *Hummingbird's* arrested spark,
Half-flame, half-flower, blossoming where
Emerald and ruby burn in air."

(Louis Untermeyer)

There are few gardens, large or small, which are not visited "in season" by these atoms, tho' their swift comings and goings may not be noted by the human gardeners! The Hawk Moths, about the same size and with similar habits, are not usually seen before dusk, while the wee bird is a daylight visitor, taking sips of the nectar in pay for relishing the tiny insects caught therein.

A number of *Warblers* are residents, a great many pass through, all are a joy, and each contributes to the sum total of human happiness and welfare by "nipping in the bud" various small, insidious pests which, unchecked, would work havoc in garden and wood and field.

Ās beautiful as any flower grown—often more brilliant in color—these restless sprites travel long distances on seemingly tireless wings, some nesting west of Hudson's Bay and migrating to South America!

Kentucky, Yellow, Yellow-throated, Black and White Creeping, Yellow-breasted Chat and *Redstart* are the usual Warbler residents, tho' occasionally there may be others, whose presence is of itself "a tingling thrill!"

Cedar Waxwings—brownish, with crest, and a yellow band across the tip of the tail; not gifted with song, but cheery, polite bird-people who are fond of various small fruits, thus replanting many wild varieties.

The *Meadowlark* and *Oriole* family includes *Red-winged* and *Rusty Black-birds, Purple* and *Bronzed Grackles* which are numerous, with *Bobolinks* on the edge of the area. Each member is found in its own habitat. *Larks* frequent open fields and meadows; *Red-wings* use the cattail marsh for their nests; *Orchard Orioles* straddle some apple bough, near codling-moths, a favorite food; *Baltimore Orioles* swing the long, purse-like cradle from some drooping branch—all feeding young entirely, and themselves largely, on a varied insect diet.

Scarlet Tanager, wearing *SO* scarlet a shirt, with black sleeves and tail, that Louis Untermeyer calls attention to—

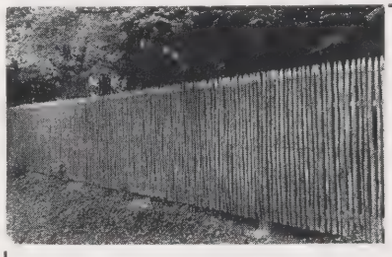
"The Tanager's abrupt rebellion,
Taunting the greenery with vermillion."

Less frequently seen is the rosy-red *Summer Tanager.* Both are fond of various caterpillars, the gypsy-moth, the tent, etc. The Summer Tanager is also an expert flycatcher.

Cardinal Grosbeak, known and loved far and wide, his "first cousin" *Rose-breasted Grosbeak,* and their "near of kin," *Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, Goldfinch* and *Towhee,* are all equipped with strong beaks to crush seeds and beetles, and so do their share of Conservation. The family also includes many sparrows, *Grasshopper, Vesper, Tree, Chipping, Field, White-throated, White-crowned, Fox, Lincoln's, Swamp, Song,* and *Slate-colored Junco* and *Pine Siskin,* all residents or transient in most sections, and all rendering great service with the pointed bills, keen eyes and ever ready appetites.

Flycatchers, recognized by the habit of sitting motionless-upright, ready to sally forth after some winged bit of destruction, and often returning to the same perch. The whole family does valiant work in thus checking multitudes of harmful creatures which they are adept in catching on the wing. *Kingbird, Crested* and *Least Flycatcher, Phoebe* and *Pewee* are the most common.

Vireos—Blue-headed, Red-eyed, White-eyed and *Yellow-throated* are seen in and around Philadelphia, each having the above characteristic marking. There is a *Philadelphia* Vireo, not often seen here and not so easily identified. All are fond of the egg-clusters,



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larvæ and moths, etc., hiding on the under side of leaves.

Swallows, Purple Martins and *Swifts* catch food entirely while on the wing, thus clearing the air of gnats, flies, mosquitoes and their ilk. The graceful, fork-tailed *Barn Swallow* is numerous, but the lack of thought on the part of humans makes it very difficult for them to find suitable places—barns, overhanging sheds, open garages, etc., where they can build their wonderful mud nests and carry on. The *Chimney Swift,* "a cigar on wings"—has short tail feathers ending in stiff bristles, to prop them upright on straight walls. As they sweep gracefully overhead, their big mouths, beset with bristly hairs, yawn wide, catching gnats and mosquitoes.

Whip-poor-will and *Nighthawk,* of the Goatsucker family, known as "animated insect traps," are largely birds of the dusk and night, mottled brownish, small bills, but great mouths which scoop in quantities of winged ants, moths, mosquitoes, etc., the conspicuous white wing-patches identify the Nighthawk, which can often be seen in daytime, "looping the aerial loop" over the City.

Killdeer, a plover with two dark breast-bands, the "Killdee, Killdee" call ringing clear and wild over grassy fields where they find their food and openly hide their crude nests.

Bob White Quail—a friend of mankind, devouring the most pernicious weed seeds and the worst insect pests to be found in field and garden. They should be numerous, and would be were it not for the lack of protective areas and the presence of prowling cats, unleashed dogs and selfish hunters.

Mourning Dove—a small, gray-brown edition of the Pigeon family, with long, pointed, spotted tail, and a call that is not sad or mournful. How can it be, when he is telling his mate that he loves her? It is an inexcusable disgrace that such valuable gardeners, destroying quantities of noxious weed seeds, especially in feeding their young by regurgitation, should be on the game list in Pennsylvania!

Cuckoos, both the *Black* and the *Yellow-billed*—long, slender body, brown above, white below—devour various baneful caterpillars, being especially fond of the hairy tent caterpillars. At times the bird's stomach lining is so matted with hairs that there can be no digestion. In such plight, the lining rolls into a ball, is expelled by the bill, a new lining grows, and "the feast of caterpillars" continues!

Edward Howe Forbush writes of this unusual ability as "a process that would be beneficial to some un-feathered bipeds could they compass it."

Shrikes—both *Northern* and *Migrant*—gray above, white below, black mask, upper mandible hooked. Called "Butcherbird," because of hanging victims on thorns. They do take some birds, but they also help to hold in check grasshoppers and many small rodents.

The dash and splash of the *Belted Kingfisher* is a vivid part of the spirit of the Wissahickon and other nearby streams. That they take small fish is no discredit to the tribe. That they take the grub enemies of some of the fine fish with which the streams have been restocked is greatly to their credit.

Crow and *Blue Jay* need little introduction. Both species do good work by holding in check large grubs and beetles. Both species are known to destroy eggs and young of other birds; but where tangles and thickets are available for the smaller birds, little damage is done. It is largely in areas where natural undergrowth has been cleared away, the woods thinned and no adequate tangles allowed to grow, that any so-called "bird of prey" can do much harm.

If in all public parks, a section were set aside for wildlife, where Nature might work her will unhindered and unharmed by the public, "a long step in the right direction" would be taken.

We gratefully acknowledge a debt to the human Tree Surgeons, with their acquired knowledge of tree diseases, their accurate instruments, their often successful methods of combating a plague of insect pests. But, who among them, can hear the faint gnawing at the heart of a tall, symmetrical tree, or has instruments sufficiently delicate and cunning to bore directly into the path of the hidden "agent of destruction," spear it, drag it out and destroy it?

Yet such is the work of the *feathery* tree surgeons—the Downy, the Hairy, the Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Who, among all the human "exterminators," can compete with the simple but effective method which the Flicker, or Golden-winged Woodpecker, uses to eliminate the nest of ants in lawn, flower-bed and garden?

Is "the laborer" less "worthy of his hire" because he is small, and belongs to another race?

The "hire" which should be accorded the always successful labors of this race of gardeners, is the opportunity to carry on their "age-old trades," unmolested by our lack of thought, unhindered by our carelessness, encouraged more and more to "home" near us, and to share with us fully of their God-given

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talents for keeping in check the race of insects!

Unusual species may sometimes be seen mingling with the flocks of *Mallard* and *Black Ducks, Canada Geese,* and *Herring Gulls* on the reservoirs and streams in and around Philadelphia.

The weird call of the *Loon* may suddenly shatter the silence of some wooded stream. Artistic *Herons,* even the lovely *Egret,* are seen now and again "by still waters." The *Bitterns* find safe camouflage in dense marshy grasses. Unusual *water* and *shore* birds may be glimpsed in favorable places at favorable times.

Eagles—both *Bald* and *Golden* are infrequently noted soaring leisurely high above the tree-tops over various water-courses, the flat, seven-foot wing-spread identifying them, while the crooked wing is typical of the *Osprey* who does some fishing in nearby streams.

Vultures are often visible, swinging on almost motionless wings in graceful curves, keen eyes watching the wooded slopes and open fields for the carrion on which they thrive.

Even such fine wildlife areas as Fairmount Park and the Wissahickon can not be of real service in conserving the wild bird life in the Philadelphia area unless we humans are aware of the value of that wildlife and see to it that there are sufficient suitable opportunities for that wildlife to "live and move and have its being" as was evidently intended in the broad plan of life here on our earth.

A young, partially paralyzed *Sapsucker* may have to spend the rest of his years in the cage where he now is, because without knowing what effect it could have upon wildlife, human beings have impulsively used D.D.T., or some other spray upon the vegetation around their homes. It were wise if we would be "carefully hesitant" about the use of anything that might be harmful to other life than that which it was designed to destroy!

If we want to continue having wild bird life along our streams, in our woods and parks, about our own homes and gardens, we must realize the needs of the varied bird life and help to supply those needs.

Besides planting *One Perfect* Blue Spruce in the open, where it can develop into symmetrical beauty, put *three* or *more* evergreens *together,* to make a safe shelter for feathered folk "in time of need." Set aside some corner for a dense, bushy cluster into which small birds can dive to escape an attack. Provide some rough, shallow pool where the bathers can feel safe even when the feathers are wet. In other words, we must do as Chester Reed repeatedly urged "THINK BIRD," and give back to the wildlife at least, acceptable substitutes for the natural surroundings of which it is being deprived.

"Do you ne'er think what wondrous beings these?
Do you ne'er think who made them, and who taught
The dialect they use, where melodies
Alone are the interpreters of thought?
Whose household words are songs in many keys,
Sweeter than instrument of man e'er caught!
Whose habitations in the tree-tops even
Are half-way houses on the road to heaven!"
(Longfellow, in "Birds of Killingworth.")

Birds are entangled by their feet and men by their tongues.

—THOMAS FULLER

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Dates of Coming Flower Shows

April 16 and 17—Spring Flower Show at Jenkintown Store of Strawbridge & Clothier, Jenkintown, Pa.

April 23 and 24—Spring Flower Show at Ardmore Store of Strawbridge & Clothier, Ardmore, Pa.

June 7—Spring Flower Show of Norristown Garden Club, Rittenhouse Junior High School, Norristown, Pa.

November 5, 6 and 7—Chrysanthemum Show of The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Field House, Swarthmore, Pa.

The Junior League will have a booth at the colorful annual Rittenhouse Square Flower Mart, May 20, for the benefit of the Kensington Children's Center, where they will sell most attractive hand painted wooden animals and other toys, and balloons as well as plants and cut flowers.

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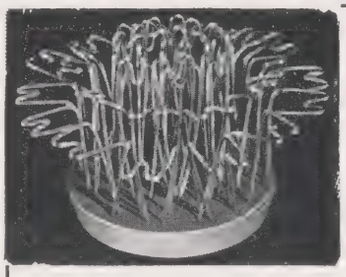

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We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for all the interesting and enlightening articles submitted, which have contributed a great deal to the success of this program.

COVER—Photographed by Anne B. Wertsner, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, courtesy of P. F. Collier & Son Corp.

"A GARDEN AT THE CITY'S DOOR"—By John C. Wister, Director, Scott Horticultural Foundation, Swarthmore College, Sec. of Horticultural Society.

"SOIL — IT'S MORE THAN JUST DIRT"— By Harry Wood, Scott Foundation, Swarthmore College.

"WINDOW PLANTS FOR WINTER"—By Anne B. Wertsner, Lecturer and Member of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

"WHERE EAST MEETS WEST"—By Henry Skinner, Morris Arboretum of Chestnut Hill.

"GARDEN COLOR — 'GAUDY DUTCH' " — By Frances Lichten, Author of "Folk Art of Rural Pennsylvania."

"NEW VARIETIES, 1948"—By Patricia Spollen—Courtesy of Miss Spollen and the New York Times.

"HERE AND THERE"—By Dr. Jane Leslie Kift, Philadelphia Inquirer Garden Columnist.

"MAKE YOUR GARDENING AN ADVENTURE" — By Gertrude M. Smith.

"YOUR CHILDREN AND THE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION"—The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania.

"THE WISSAHICKON—SECLUDED VALLEY"—By Joseph Carson, pres., Commissioners of Fairmount Park.

"BIRDS OF THE PHILADELPHIA AREA"—By Mrs. Everett S. Griscom, Chairman Conservation Council.

"GARDENING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR"—By Caroline Bender.

"LET US SPRAY"—By Don Rose, Columnist, Philadelphia Bulletin.

POEMS—Courtesy of the Garden Workers of Pennsylvania.

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